

# Shepherd's Bush

## CHRONICLE

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## I'LL HOLD NEW MAYOR TO ACCOUNT

# Heathrow expansion protesters reject new proposal

BY JACK DIXON

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CAMPAIGNERS and politicians have rubbished claims by Heathrow chiefs that it will go above and beyond environmental targets if a third runway is given the green light, as the row over airport expansion took off once again.

West London's newly-elected City Hall representative joined with local lobby groups to renew

their calls for the Heathrow plan to be scrapped.

It comes after Heathrow promised to "not just meet but exceed" the conditions set by the Airports Commission last year.

In a letter to the Prime Minister, Heathrow chief executive John Holland-Kaye set out plans to extend a ban on night flights and agreed to a legally-binding deal never to build a fourth runway.

But the commitment was pounced on by local campaigners who say they are furious about the impact of noise pollution on those living under flight paths.

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When performance poet John Cooper Clarke returns to London on his latest tour, devoted fans look certain to sell out the Shepherd's Bush Empire to enjoy his famously witty lyrics and machine-gun delivery. But how can his remarkable resurgence in popularity be explained? At 67, and perhaps against all the odds, the poet who first found fame during the punk rock era of the 1970s is enjoying arguably his most successful ever stint. It's been an incredible second coming for Clarke, who has garnered a whole new generation of young fans

SEE CAPITAL NIGHTS, PAGE 14

## Surgery plan

HEALTH bosses have announced plans to refurbish the Milson Road Health Centre, quelling fears that the building could be sold off for housing. Commissioners say they want to move two GP practices into the building.

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## Beds crisis

NHS plans that could see dozens of patient beds removed from hospitals in Hammersmith and Fulham have prompted warnings that local health services are facing their "greatest ever crisis".

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## Rock bottom

ROCK legend Brian May and TV star Anita Dobson are quitting their west London home after angrily blaming basement-building neighbours and council planners for driving them out.

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## F1 idea stalls

RUMOURS that Formula One Grand Prix motor racing could take over the streets of London as soon as next year have been rubbished by City Hall chiefs, after the sport's chief executive hinted that he believed a deal could be done.

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## PM's goal

PRIME Minister David Cameron is to back a west London football project fighting radicalisation.

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Shepherd's Bush will be in full bloom when several local gardens are opened up to the public after weeks of preening and preparation. John Betts House is among dozens of outdoor spaces being spruced up for the Open Garden Squares weekend next month, with the Ravenscourt Park Glasshouses and the William Morris Society garden also on show. A network of secret green plots across west London are being opened up to visitors over the weekend of June 18 and 19. Residents of Sycamore House in Hammersmith (pictured) received a prize for their efforts during last year's event



## Healthy living project expands

A SUCCESSFUL initiative designed to improve the health of people who live in deprived areas is to be extended in Shepherd's Bush.

Contractors have been awarded funding to set up 'Community Champions' schemes on several estates.

The project involves organising groups of volunteers to help educate residents about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

It is hoped that the scheme will also improve mental wellbeing, reduce isolation and create a more cohesive community, while cutting the risk of residents developing long-term health conditions, such as cardiovascular disease and diabetes.

Council chiefs previously funded a similar initiative in White City, which was hailed as one of the most successful programmes of its kind in London.

Other projects have been set up at the Edward Woods and Old Oak estates, and funding has now been set aside for 'Community Champions' to be rolled out elsewhere in the borough.

The Urban Partnership Group has been awarded £250,000 to launch the scheme in the Shepherd's Bush Green area, while similar initiatives are being set up on the Gibbs Green, West Kensington, Bayonne and Field Road estates.

## Football centre's positive legacy

ARCHITECTS who led the development of a £2million football centre in Shepherd's Bush say the scheme will "enrich the community" and encourage a new generation of young players to take up the sport.

The Hammersmith Park Football Centre was officially opened in March by Queen's Park Rangers legend Les Ferdinand.

Spanning almost 12,000 square feet, the centre includes 10 five-a-side pitches as well as a pavilion with toilets, changing rooms and a café.

Andy Newman, of LK2 Architects, said: "We are really pleased to have been a part of something that will enrich the local community for years to come."

# Fears for future of 500 hospital beds prompt warning of new NHS crisis

BY JACK DIXON  
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NHS plans that could see dozens of patient beds removed from hospitals in Hammersmith and Fulham have prompted warnings that local health services are facing their "greatest ever crisis".

Details of draft proposals to cut up to 500 beds across north west London emerged last week, triggering fresh fears over the provision of services. Health chiefs have stressed that the figure is a long-term target and that no beds will be removed before alternative provision is in place.

But Hammersmith MP Andy Slaughter pounced on

the proposals while the local Healthwatch group also expressed concerns.

He said: "Alongside the attack on junior doctors, this is creating the greatest ever crisis in our local health service."

The plan to remove 500 beds was revealed in a draft document drawn up as part of work on a new 'sustainability and transformation plan' for health services across north west London.

It is one of 44 STPs being prepared across the country as NHS chiefs seek to coordinate services and cut costs. A five-year improvement plan for the north west London area, which spans eight boroughs including Hammersmith and Fulham, will

be published at the end of June.

But the suggestion that hospital beds could be replaced with alternative care closer to home has sparked fresh fears.

Christine Vigers, chair of Healthwatch Central West London, said: "We are concerned how any change on this scale will impact on local residents. We know through our work with residents in Hammersmith and Fulham of the many times when better alternatives to hospital inpatient stays would be welcome but we also know of the grave concern that patient choice should be retained, including access to local hospital beds and services."

Councillor Stephen Cowan, the Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council, said it would be "insane" to lose the beds and questioned the ability of health services to provide effective alternative care.

"It's plain stupid to consider cutting 500 hospital beds and this council will fight this at every single level," he added.

There are currently 4,000 acute beds used in north west London hospitals but the draft plans indicate that around 10 to 13 per cent could be removed. Health bosses estimate that a £1billion funding gap will be created if no action is taken to address financial inefficiencies in the system.

A spokeswoman for the North West London body of clinical commissioning groups, said: "A hospital is not always the best place to treat people. Our ambition is to provide the right care in the right place, and the NHS and local authorities are working closely together to provide more care closer to home, as well as to take advantage of developments in care that mean people don't always require lengthy hospital stays."

"The priority for north west London is to improve the health and wellbeing of the people living in the area. However, we also need to ensure that the system is sustainable and financially efficient for the future."



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# BBC to face scrutiny over its top stars' pay

BY GEOFF BAKER

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THE BBC is set to face awkward questions when MPs debate how much of the public's money it pays to its stars, after new figures revealed that some of its high-paid presenters' shows are not among those most popular with viewers.

Figures show that recent programmes presented by some of those believed to be among the BBC's best-paid talent are not even in BBC1's top 30 shows.

The BBC admits that nine of its biggest names are currently paid in excess of £500,000 a year. Last week *The Guardian* reported that the high earners include *Match Of The Day* presenter Gary Lineker and chat show host Graham Norton.

Both stars are reported to be paid around £2 million.

But although the BBC has been told by the Government to name the stars who are paid more than its £450,000-a-year Director General Tony Hall, if MPs make a cost-per-viewer probe when the Government Bill for the future of the BBC is debated in Parliament there could be red faces at Broadcasting House.

Figures released by the Broadcasters Audience Re-

search Board show that neither *Match Of The Day* nor *The Graham Norton Show* made it into the list of the 30 most-watched BBC1 programmes for the week ending May 1.

Both shows had audiences smaller than BBC1's 30th most-popular programme of the week, which was the *BBC News on Sunday* with 3.58 million viewers.

The top five slots in the official ratings were taken by *EastEnders*, with audiences ranging from 7.19 million to 6.16 million.

But *EastEnders* stars are not among the BBC's highest paid. The *Radio Times* has reported that the soap's actors are paid between £120,000 and £200,000 a year.

However, the BBC argues that its highest-paid stars often front more than one programme – Graham Norton hosts a Radio 2 show along with presenting The Eurovision Song Contest and awards shows and another big-earner, Chris Evans, earns up to £2 million for his radio show, *One Show* appearances and hosting *Top Gear*.

Among the BBC1 programmes that were more popular with viewers than *Match Of The Day* and *The*

*Graham Norton Show* in the week ending May 1 were: *Masterchef* with 5.57 million, *Countryfile* with 5.12 million, *Have I Got News For You* with 4.96 million, *Casualty* with 4.8 million and *Holby City* with 4.33 million.

None of the stars of any of those programmes is believed to be among the nine presenters paid more than £500,000 a year by the BBC.

Much speculation sur-



Graham Norton is one of the BBC's top broadcasters

rounds the identity of 'The Big Nine', with names in the frame including Evans, Norton, Lineker, Clare Balding, David Dimbleby, Sir David Attenborough, Jeremy Paxman, Nick Grimshaw, Andrew Marr and Fiona Bruce.

But TV insiders say that none of the nine are expected to be jumping for joy that their pay deals are about to be made public.

"It's hard to believe that the BBC will not have already informed The Big Nine and their agents that they are having to name them, as it's only a matter of making nine phone calls," said one TV producer.

"It's also hard to believe that any of the nine will be exactly knocked out with delight that everybody will know what they earn. It's one thing to be in *The Sunday Times* Rich List, it's quite another to be outed for earning a million a year, or whatever, because although these people are at the very top of their game, inevitably someone is going to say 'oh, I'm not sure he's worth that' or 'I don't think the public should be paying her so much'.

"It's not only potentially embarrassing, it's bizarre. Does the Home Office openly publicise how much its mandarins make, or the Foreign Office?"

"How much one earns used to be the last taboo, that was never discussed. But this new transparency drive seems to almost smack of a witch hunt and I can't imagine that any big BBC star wants everyone to know how much he's worth – for starters it is bound to become a running gag from guests on their shows.

"It's going to be the politicians' dodge whenever they are given a hard time on some of these people's programmes, you can already hear them saying 'I realise you're pressing me because you have to justify your eight hundred thousand a year' and some stars could walk away from the BBC over this, switching to the commercial channels where our respect of pay privacy is somewhat more civilised."

Meanwhile, Culture Secretary John Whittingdale has attacked the 'hysteria' whipped up by 'left wing luvvies' over the BBC's charter renewal and has claimed that the BBC wants to make the changes that include naming its highest paid.

The long-awaited White Paper on the future of the corporation was unveiled last week without a number of proposals which had drawn fierce criticism from supporters.

Satirist Armando Iannucci tweeted his relief, saying: "No cuts to BBC budget, no interference in schedules, and majority on Board not appointed by Govt. This is good to hear."

In the Commons, Maria Eagle, Labour's culture, media and sport spokeswoman, said she still worried that "the Government will seek to influence the BBC's editorial decision making".

Writing for you every week, London's most outspoken entrepreneur

## Charlie pipes up!



IF you were to pick up the Yellow Pages, turn to the plumbing, tiling or carpentry sections and begin randomly calling independent tradespeople, chances are you'd have ran out of minutes, or possibly patience, before you got through to a woman.

Shockingly, this is because only about two per cent of the manual trades' workforce is female!

The law, teaching and journalism professions, which were once male bastions, have changed with the times and are now, rightly, seen as gender-neutral sectors; however, for some reason the message didn't get through to the trade professions.

I receive dozens of applications each week for places on the Pimlico Plumbers' in-house apprenticeship scheme, and flicking through the CVs would show that this imbalance is no closer to being resolved, as very few, if any, tend to be from young women.

Something needs to be done, and it is.

Women on the Tools, an initiative that is aiming to make women tradespeople the norm, not the exception, has been officially launched; as a patron of the newly formed organisation, I can say with conviction that we won't rest until there is equality in the labour market.

It's a huge task, which will require the team to invest a lot of time and effort over a number of years.

However, the long slog will be worth it when young women can aspire to a rewarding career on the tools, without feeling out of place.

I must admit my interest in addressing the

alarmingly low level of women in the trades isn't all out of the goodness of my heart; there are sound business reasons in play.

We have a huge skills gap in the UK, which I have been making a fuss about for a while now, and it seems to me that one way to overcome the problem would be to double the amount of people employers have to call upon, by making a manual career accessible to women.

Hopefully as a result of the hard work of Women on the Tools, in the not-too-distant future no one will bat an eyelid when a little girl dreams of running a construction company or being a plumber, because let me tell you, there's a lot of money in the business.

A Pimlico Plumber can easily earn £100,000 a year, which is more than respectable, and girls should be encouraged to look at practical and fulfilling blue collar careers.

We're always on the lookout for female tradespeople, but there just aren't the numbers we want. In my experience the women we have employed have been as talented and as committed as their male counterparts.

Meeting so many talented trades women of all ages at the launch of Women on the Tools only made me more certain that this is a fight that not only needs to be fought, but also it's one that we can win, and must.

Women on the Tools has declared war on the antiquated prejudices that continue to prevent our daughters from having equal access to a huge range of lucrative careers. It's time for change!



Pimlico Plumbers are encouraging women to make an impact on the manual trades sector

Views expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of this newspaper



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## Expert Home Care Service Launched

**H**eritage Healthcare Kensington is a home care provider, specialising in the delivery of expert quality care.

The company, which recently opened its Kensington office, are able to provide care and support to the communities of Kensington, Chelsea, Fulham, Hammersmith, Westminster and surrounding areas.

Heritage Healthcare Kensington Director, Ayaan Abdulle is supported by experienced Registered Care Manager, Leanda Alexis, who has over 20 years of experience within the Health and Social Care Sector.

Leanda is responsible for the company's hand-picked team and carers and ensuring that every client receives a bespoke care service.

Ayaan said, "My ultimate aim is to ensure that people are able to access the highest quality of support, are treated within respect and dignity, and are given the opportunity to continue living within the comfort of their own home."

Heritage Healthcare Kensington provide a distinct range of trusted homecare

services tailored to individual needs. Services include: Elderly Care, Dementia Care, Respite Care, Housekeeping, Live In Care, Complex Needs, Hospital to Home, End of Life and much more.

If you would like further information on the services provided by Heritage Healthcare Kensington or would like to arrange a detailed consultation, contact Leanda on 020 3713 9361 or visit [www.heritagehealthcare.co.uk/kensington](http://www.heritagehealthcare.co.uk/kensington)



Ayaan Abdulle, Heritage Healthcare Kensington Owner and Director.

# May's broadside at basement builders

BY GEOFF BAKER

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ROCK music legend Brian May and TV star Anita Dobson are quitting their Holland Park home after furiously blaming basement-building schemes and Kensington and Chelsea council for driving them out and "ruining their lives".

The Queen guitarist and his wife are to move to the country after a scathing attack on the council for allowing so many iceberg homes in their neighbourhood.

In a protest against planning applications for two more basements near his home, Dr May, who attained a PhD in astrophysics before becoming a rock star, claims that living close to extensions by "basement-building Barbarians" has become so stressful that one of his neighbours died from nervous exhaustion.

"We really have come to the end of our rope with the awful basement-building hell that Kensington has become," said Dr May, who accuses the council of "a betrayal of duties" for green-lighting so many developments and says that they should be sacked for it.

In an open letter to the authority posted on his website – *brianmay.com* – the musician, who was recently named in *The Sunday Times* Rich List to be worth £120 million – says he has been "persecuted every day of the week", enduring seven years of building work which has made his life "a misery".

He wrote: "This is a letter of objection in the strongest possible terms to the proposed basement extensions on houses in our street.

"Along with my wife and many of my neighbours, I have now been fighting for over seven years against the unbearable disruption to our quality of life by the building of basements to properties in our area, for which RBKC has given permission.



Brian May has launched a scathing attack on the disruption caused by basement building projects near where he lives in Holland Park

Picture: SWNS

"In our opinion, these permissions are a complete betrayal of the council's duties in taking care of the residents of the borough.

"Ten years ago, the area was a quiet oasis in London, with properties that all of us worked our whole lives to acquire. The tree-lined street was peaceful, giving many of us the environment we needed, working often at home. We imagined we could rely on the borough council to ensure this area remained protected from harmful developments.

"But in recent years the peace we all treasured has been shattered by successive unreasonable building schemes, involving piling rigs, massive removal of earth and the deployment of huge machinery.

"The result has been unbearable noise, dust, polluting fumes, constant heavy traffic and loss of privacy, making life in our houses and gardens impossible for over seven years, and without any prospect of this misery ending.

"This has produced mounting stress in all of us, at least one neighbour having died in a state of nervous exhaustion, and at present many residents showing the results of extreme anxiety.

"The feeling we all share is the equivalent of being beaten on the head every day of the week for years on end, without any possibility of stopping it, or punishing the offenders. Even objecting to the works is a constant drain on our energies and money too, all brought about by the selfishness of a few property owners, and the negligence of the council in allowing them to ruin our lives.

"It's surely clear to all that a borough council's job is to protect the quality of life of its residents. That means ALL the residents. So when a project comes up

which benefits only ONE resident (and actually very often not even a resident at all, but a foreign investor or corporation building purely for a profit, on which British tax may never be paid), and that project will destroy the quality of life of probably 30 to 50 neighbouring households for a minimum of three years, it's

absolutely clear that the answer should be NO.

"If the council are coming up with a 'yes', it can only be because of hidden agendas, since there is no logical justification for allowing such appalling disruption. Quite simply, if this behaviour is being allowed, the council is not doing its job, and should be removed.

"This is actually a very clear case of principle; there can be no possible doubt that it is morally wrong to allow ANY more basement building in residential areas.

"But, as with almost everything in this country at the moment, it is a battle between what is RIGHT and what is rewarding to powerful people. And in the present regime, under this Government, it seems that what is right never wins.

"I fear RBKC must be under the influence of such interests if at this point it refuses to acknowledge its obligation to the majority of Kensington residents. And I also fear that this judgment applies essentially to the whole of London.

"Anticipating permission for these new basements to be constructed, we are now planning to sell up, quitting Kensington entirely, and to move out of London. It's a massive disruption, and one we've

been trying for years to avoid, but we're now at breaking point.

"In the coming months, I will not be backing off an inch in the fight against the Basement Building Barbarians."

Dr May stressed: "I will be battling on, for common decency and the quality of life of the remaining residents of our street; but I may do it from a home where I don't wake up to being persecuted every day of the week.

"The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea must refuse this and all future applications for permission to extend underground."

He adds: "As regards legality, it is to be noted that all of these developers were granted permission to construct their extensions, but none of them were given carte blanche to make their neighbours' lives a living hell.

"Looking at our street now, it is almost impossible to believe that anyone could call this a 'reasonable development' in what used to be a beautiful quiet street.

"Kensington, under this Government and this council, has been transformed from a beautiful select oasis into a hellhole of building works. Certainly Kensington can no longer be considered to be a desirable place to live."



## Council insists its planning controls are toughest in UK

BRIAN May's decision to leave Kensington comes at a time when Kensington and Chelsea council – which prides itself on being the toughest on development in the UK – is to get even tougher.

In response to Dr May, council officers pointed to the authority's strict enforcement action when builders or developers do not follow the rules, new curbs on noisy weekend working and also the work it has done with its Article 4 direction to remove what were permitted rights to build a basement without needing to apply for planning permission.

The council's planning enforcement team was one of the most active enforcement teams in the country in 2015, according to figures released by the Department of

Communities and Local Government, which show that the team served 27 Temporary Stop Notices, more than any other local authority in the UK. The team also issued more Breach of Condition Notices than the rest of the country in the last three months of 2015.

Now a tough new construction noise regime is in place in Kensington and Chelsea and residents are encouraged to report any breach of the rules.

"Noisy construction work is not allowed on weekends in the borough following many years of complaints by residents. Instead the borough operates a new Code of Construction Practice," said a council spokesman. "The code sets out best practice/standards expected in the borough. It

recognises the importance of, and need for, building projects but seeks to lay down what is expected from contractors and developers to ensure that disturbance to residents is kept to a minimum.

"Following the new code's adoption, generally 'permitted hours' for noisy works will no longer include any time on a Saturday. As before, works are not allowed on a Sunday. The code also introduces a further set of restricted hours for high impact activities such as demolition and concrete breaking.

"I don't think Mr May will find a council in central London, or anywhere in the country, with stricter controls on basement developments or more robust enforcement to ensure developers follow the rules."

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# I'll hold Sadiq to account, says west London's man at City Hall

BY JACK DIXON

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SADIQ Khan lacks "major project experience" and may struggle to deliver his key election pledges on housing and transport, according to west London's new representative at City Hall.

Tony Devenish, who was elected to the London Assembly last week, questioned the mayor's business acumen and pledged to hold him to account on major policy decisions.

In an interview with the *London Weekly News*, Mr Devenish said the Conservative Party would "learn the lessons" of Zac Goldsmith's defeat but criticised media coverage of his campaign.

He also underlined his objection to Heathrow expansion and said he would welcome a review of controversial plans for a Crossrail 2 station in Chelsea.

Mr Devenish, a Tory councillor in Westminster with more than 10 years of experience in local government, said Mr Khan had won "fair and square" but cast doubt on whether he could "balance the books" at City Hall.

"I think the media were correct in stating that there wasn't that much difference in terms of the promises made by both main mayoral candidates," he said.

"But Londoners will judge whoever is the mayor on whether they deliver – Sadiq has actually got to do what he was elected to do."

He said it was time for the mayor to "stop talking and start doing" but questioned his credentials for the job.

"Sadiq said he could deliver tens of thousands of houses every year – I'm not sure if he's got the business experience or the major projects experience," he said.

"He's got a democratic right to implement his policies but it's about how he's going to balance the books."

Following criticism from several senior Conservative figures over the tone of Mr Goldsmith's campaign in the aftermath of his election defeat, Mr Devenish criticised media coverage but said the party was "moving forward".

"The media say this and then they quote people that actually are not really Conservatives," he said.

"They quote Zac's sister, for example, who wouldn't even call herself a Conservative, and a number of other people who – let's just say – they are estranged from the party, to some extent."

"The reality is I'm one of those politicians who believes in looking to the future and not the past."

"Yes, you have to learn the lessons from a defeat and Sadiq won fair and square. He's got a democratic mandate."



Tony Devenish, who has represented Knightsbridge and Belgravia at Westminster city council since 2006, was elected with a comprehensive majority as the London Assembly member for West Central

Picture: Odi Caspi



New London Mayor Sadiq Khan has a lot of work to do to deliver on his promises, argues Conservative Tony Devenish  
Picture: SWNS

"My job now is to scrutinise Sadiq. I can assure you the party will be putting a good campaign together for the Tooting by-election. We are moving forward."

Mr Devenish, who has represented Knightsbridge and Belgravia at Westminster city council since 2006, was elected with a comprehensive majority as the London



Zac Goldsmith's mayoral campaign has come in for sharp criticism but Tony Devenish prefers not to dwell on the past – he believes in looking to the future  
Picture: SWNS

Assembly member for West Central.

He took over last week as the representative for the constituency, which incorporates the City of Westminster, Kensington and Chelsea, and Hammersmith and Fulham.

A former general manager at Rolls Royce with a distinguished career in infrastructure and property, Mr Devenish is also the council's senior planning chief and chairman of its trading arm, Westco.

As one of eight elected Tories in City Hall, Mr Devenish will be among a select few able to scrutinise the mayor and hold him to account on issues affecting west London.

He told the *London Weekly*

“

Sadiq said he could deliver tens of thousands of houses every year – I'm not sure if he's got the business experience or the major projects experience

Tony Devenish, London Assembly member for Westminster, Kensington and Chelsea, and Hammersmith and Fulham

*News* he would be "pro-active" with constituents and make sure residents were not left "hacked off" by big developments.

He also said he would welcome a review of the King's Road site in Chelsea as the preferred location for a Crossrail 2 station but stopped short of supporting an alternative proposal at Imperial Wharf.

Mr Devenish was clearer on Heathrow expansion, which he said had been a key concern raised by residents during his campaign.

"I can't see Heathrow getting off the ground even if the government gives it the green light," he said.

"You'd end up seeing those that oppose it [seeking a] judicial review until I am a very old man."

"Heathrow have got to do what they've got to do. But, frankly, there is no support in west London for Heathrow as an option."

He listed housing, transport and "law and order" among his key concerns and emphasised the need to "crack down on all levels of crime".

"My priorities are my constituents' priorities," he added. "If a tube gets extended, it's about how I can listen to the local community so that those who live close by do not have their lives made a misery for a decade. It's a kind of micro-pavement politics."

## Superbug that lurks on toys

PARENTS of young children have been warned by hygiene experts to wash soft toys and comfort blankets regularly in order to avoid risks from the killer superbug MRSA.

A new survey has revealed that nearly a fifth of London parents are not washing their children's soft toys and comfort blankets often enough and a leading hygienist is warning that exposes children to the hidden dangers that could be lurking in their favourite companion.

According to the survey commissioned by household cleaning experts ACE, 16 per cent of parents in London do not wash their child's soft toys or comfort blankets on a regular basis: saying they would wait six months to clean them, or not wash them at all.

This, according to hygiene expert Dr Lisa Ackerley, comes as "shocking news".

Dr Ackerley, Professor of Environmental Health at the University of Salford, said: "It is shocking that parents wash their children's comfort blankets or soft toys at a frequency of only once every six months or less."

"These items could become very dirty over time, and pick up all sorts of micro-organisms from the floor, wherever they are dropped. If there is a pet in the house, then the floor surface will become dirty from the pet's paws, and if the pet has had an accident in the house, then faecal bacteria, some of which could be harmful could be picked up by the soft toys or blankets dropped on the floor."

"As children often chew their toys or blankets, it makes sense to wash them frequently, and certainly more than once a year."

"Dogs, cats and wild animals and pests can carry parasites and harmful bacteria, so if they are collected on teddy and then transferred to a child's mouth, this is not good news."

## Experts query weekend risks

THE new junior doctors' contract is unlikely to decrease the number of weekend deaths, suggests research conducted in London.

Experts say the 'weekend effect' – which apparently shows patients admitted to hospital at the weekend are more likely to die – overshadows a complex pattern of weekly changes in quality of care.

But the research does show that patients admitted over the weekend are likely to spend less time being treated by a consultant than if they are admitted during the week.

Jeremy Hunt, Secretary of State for Health, has often used the 'weekend effect' to make the case for his proposed contracts for junior doctors.

A study by researchers at the University of Birmingham found no link between weekend senior doctor staffing levels and mortality.

In another paper, by King's College London and University College London, researchers studied acute stroke care. The scientists found no so-called 'weekend effect', but identified many variations in quality of care throughout the week.

The two studies, published in *The Lancet*, are not the first to reveal weaknesses in the health secretary's case.

Author Dr Benjamin Bray, from UCL said: "Our study shows the 'weekend effect' is a major oversimplification of the true extent and nature of variations in the quality of care."

# Dementia residents are ‘abandoned’

BY JACK DIXON  
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LONDONERS living with dementia are being “robbed of their dignity” due to poor standards of care, according to a leading charity.

Tim McLachlan, the head of London operations for the Alzheimer’s Society, warned that an NHS “double standard” meant people with dementia living in some care homes were not being properly treated.

It comes after the charity published the results of a nationwide survey suggesting that almost half of care home managers believe the NHS is failing to provide residents with adequate and timely support services.

The Alzheimer’s Society is concerned that some patients are paying to see a GP through their care home



Martin Green, chief executive of Care England, has concerns that many people living with dementia are being ‘abandoned’

fees, despite funding NHS services with their taxes.

Mr McLachlan said: “It is

unacceptable that this NHS double standard is leaving people with dementia waiting months for physiotherapy, incontinence and mental health services.

“In that time, we are concerned they are being robbed of essential care and pain relief, as well as their dignity, self-esteem and independence.”

He added: “People with dementia living in care homes are just as entitled to receive free care from the NHS as anyone else. A care home is, after all, a person’s home, and health services must treat care homes as a vital part of the community, instead of holding them in disregard.”

The society teamed up with Care England – a charity representing independent care homes – and spoke to 285 care home managers,

including several in London, and gathered first-hand testimonies from carers looking after people with dementia.

It uncovered a series of horror stories, including a care home resident who waited more than eight weeks to be referred to mental health services despite feeling suicidal.

One person who fell and suffered a fractured hip waited a year for community-based physiotherapy treatment.

The charity said money that care homes spend on GP

services that are free on the NHS could be better spent on one-to-one care.

Martin Green, the chief executive of Care England, said: “Our research and report with the Alzheimer’s Society identifies that many people living with dementia in care homes and the care staff who are responsible for their care are being all but abandoned by primary care.

“Access to primary care must be improved. Older people living with dementia in care homes have the same rights to primary care, health

and support as any other citizen, and the Government and NHS must act to ensure that these services are available to everyone when they are needed.”

An NHS spokesman said: “The NHS has dramatically increased the number of people with dementia who are able to be diagnosed in order to receive early support.”

The spokesman added: “Care homes have first line responsibility for looking after their residents, with appropriate back-up from the local NHS.”



A talented police officer has been dubbed the ‘world’s best dancing copper’ after posting an hilarious clip of him doing the running-man challenge – by body-popping. PC Dan Graham’s incredible dance moves racked up an astonishing half-a-million views in just 12 hours after the clip was posted online – after accepting the challenge from a convict. The Metropolitan Police officer, from Kingston-upon-Thames, quickly received praise from people on social media for his incredible, robot-like 80s dance moves SWNS

## Fans don’t find it funny after West End cry-off

FOLLOWING criticism in the press and from some disgruntled theatre-goers, actress Sheridan Smith is to take a break from her West End run in the musical *Funny Girl*.

It was announced by the producers of the show, which is running at the Savoy Theatre, that 34-year-old Smith will take a “two to four weeks leave of absence” – citing “stress and exhaustion” as the reason.

The popular actress faced criticism early last week after she was photographed at the BAFTA awards apparently looking disappointed at not winning the best actress accolade for her portrayal of a cancer victim in the acclaimed BBC dramatisation *The C Word*.

Smith angrily took to Twitter soon afterwards to reject claims that she had behaved like a bad loser.

Just weeks earlier the star, who is playing Fanny Brice in the musical, was accused of being drunk during one performance and the show was halted after just 15 minutes – with the company claiming that technical difficulties had forced the early finish.

Broadcaster Graham Norton openly mocked the Olivier award winning actress over the allegations at the televised ceremony for the BAFTA awards, sparking an outburst of anger from her devoted fans.

Smith took the first of a couple of nights off from the show last week, which once again led to a negative backlash from theatre-goers, some of whom had paid up to £120 to see the actress.

However, many who watched Smith’s understudy Natasha Barnes were hugely impressed, with one telling the *London Weekly News*: “She is fantastic. So funny and so great on stage.

“The audience were impressed and I didn’t hear

anything bad about Sheridan.”

Barnes completed the run at the Menier Chocolate Factory earlier this year after Smith discovered her father had been diagnosed with cancer and felt unable to perform.

She will now take over the role of Fanny Brice in the musical for the duration of Smith’s indisposition.

Theatre lovers from all over the world criticised the actress as they arrived at the Savoy Theatre only to find she would not be appearing on stage.

Maureen Patterson, 65, was frustrated she wouldn’t be able to see the star perform, and said it was “disgusting” the way her absence was handled by the theatre.

She said: “Lots of people booked a long time ago so they have had this money a long time, which obviously goes towards this production so they can put the production on. I wanted to see Sheridan Smith in it and now I can’t so I’m not very happy about it.

It’s just not good at all.”



Sheridan Smith cried off her West End show

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# PM signs for football team going on attack against radicalisation



David Cameron is to play in a football match in Downing Street

BY GEOFF BAKER  
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PRIME Minister David Cameron is to play in a football match in Downing Street with teenagers from a Kensington-based gang-busting project as the Government backs its pioneering drive against radicalisation.

The PM is to join a team of west London youngsters in a game against a youth side from Molenbeek, the Belgian town at the centre of recent terror atrocities.

The show game will be held in the street outside No 10 to highlight the Government's pledge to get behind plans to roll out the Kensington scheme all over London.

The Kensington-based Unity of Faiths Foundation's Football For Unity project, hailed for scoring new futures for more than a thousand disadvantaged young people in west London, is to

be spread across the capital as the smart new game plan against the city's problem with gangs, knife crime and radicalisation.

David Cameron is to put on TUFF FC's strip in a promotion game for the solidarity-scoring scheme in Downing Street this summer, as No 10 throws its weight behind the award-winning programme which has taken hundreds of youngsters off the streets to go for goals.

In a remarkable signing, TUFF's football programme has got the Prime Minister to join the team effort to lead at-risk teenagers away from knife crime, gang culture, radicalisation and the problems of poverty.

Mr Cameron is onside to play in a five-a-side game to be staged in Downing Street in July to demonstrate the Government's backing for the teen-aid strategy run by Dr Shamender Talwar and Ms Anna Prior from their office in Kensington High Street.

The TUFF project has also won the backing of Euro MPs and organisers hope that they can shortly sign London's new mayor Sadiq Khan to join its supporters' club too as the scheme is now rolling out from the West to North and East London too – and into other sports.

In less than a year, the game plan to unite young Londoners from different faiths and religions by having them play football together has mushroomed from helping just a handful of vulnerable youngsters to more than 1,000 turn up for regular training at their West London grounds.

Last month TUFF's Under-16s side won the London FA Saturday Youth League championship and the TUFF project has won the Pride Of Britain sports award for its work in uniting London's youth.

Now its Football For Unity project is expanding to become Rugby For Unity too. At the recent Unity of Faiths Festival held over torch ceremony at Saracens' ground, the Allianz Park stadium in Barnet, backed by the mayors of Ealing and Barnet and cheered on by a 20,000 crowd, the young footballers exchanged a symbolic torch – London's 1948 Olympic Torch – with players from Saracens' youth side to mark the 4th Unity of Faiths Festival from west London to north London and the rugby club joining the movement to unite all teenagers through sport.

On August 29 the Allianz Park stadium will be the site of the 4th Unity of Faiths festival, staged to bring together Londoners of all different faiths, religions and cultures. The festival, which has been welcomed by The



Anna Prior, top, and Dr Shamender Talwar, came up with the football project. MEP Syed Kamall will take a squad of footballers to Belgium

Queen, started in Southall in 2011 and attracted 8,000 people to Southall Park, with 76,000 people in 23 countries watching the music-based gala online.

The following year, 26,000 joined the festival and a crowd of more than 30,000 is expected when it moves to Barnet for this year's Bank Holiday event.

Dr Talwar said: "TUFF's football project is spreading across London. We now attract kids from Southall, Tower Hamlets, Camden, north Kensington, Hanwell and Hayes and many other parts of London to our weekly training sessions.

"It is spreading from west London to east London and north London. It is becoming not just Football For Unity but now Rugby For Unity and, soon, Cricket For Unity as we have been meeting with the English Cricket Board and they are very keen to roll out the scheme to their game.

"Through all sorts of sports, this is not just the answer to all sorts of problems which affect our teenagers – gang culture, knife crime, radicalisation – but it is the proven answer, it works. TUFF's sports projects tackle the social problems that are out there.

"We have saved countless kids who have been at risk of falling astray to all sorts of dangers by uniting them in the team spirit of playing great British games and, in doing so, teaching them great British values of fair-

ness, trust, the rule of law and respect for all others.

"Our kids come from all sorts of different backgrounds, religions and faiths, but we have Muslim kids playing with Jewish kids playing with Christians kids because football isn't about different faiths, it is about having faith in each other and much can grow from that.

"This scheme provides the solution to the problems of diversity that we see on the streets.

"Team unity is giving hope and aspiration to kids who felt that they had no future. They may have different backgrounds and beliefs but they are brought to be one together in the game.

"Football For Unity is achieving precisely what our new Mayor Sadiq Khan wants to do for London, uniting us all, and we very much hope that he will join this glorious team effort."

Next month TUFF's football players will further expand into Europe when London MEP Syed Kamall takes a squad of the teenagers to Molenbeek, the Belgian town at the heart of recent terror atrocities, for a high-profile match against a local youth side in a Football Against Radicalisation game and meet with leaders of Europe at the European Parliament.

A return match between the London and Molenbeek sides will be staged in Downing Street in July, with the local team fielding David Cameron.

## Home violence 'best' response

VICTIMS of domestic violence in Fulham receive the "best support and protection in London", according to town hall chiefs.

The borough's police team has the highest conviction rate of any force in London for such cases that are brought before the courts.

Officers have been working with Hammersmith and Fulham council on a criminal justice partnership – the Impact Project – that aims to tackle domestic violence and offer support to victims.

The team, which is based at Hammersmith police station, comprises professionals from the Shepherd's Bush Housing Group and the charity Standing Together Against Domestic Violence.

Councillor Sue Fennimore, the council's cabinet member for social inclusion, said: "Victims of domestic violence often feel scared, isolated and vulnerable, and can be daunted by the court process. Often this means cases never make it to court and perpetrators remain unpunished.

"Our conviction figure is testament to both the resolve of those people the project has helped and the great collaborative working of the partner groups.

"We are now determined to build on this success and do even more to bring offenders to justice and stop domestic violence before it takes place."

## Gasworks site housing boost

TOWN Hall bosses have revoked a key planning rule that could open the door for a redevelopment of the former Fulham Gasworks.

National Grid has been in discussions with the Berkeley Group over a potential redevelopment of the site.

The six gasholders, which were built in 1824, have been redundant for four years and are due to be demolished.

The seven-acre site in Sands End is considered to be suitable for new homes but developers have faced obstacles in the planning process.

However, council planners have now scrapped an important rule regarding sites containing hazardous substances that could kick-start the scheme.

St William Homes LLP – the partnership set up by National Grid and Berkeley in 2014 – is expected to submit plans to redevelop the site.

## Tea and toast to Queen at 90

FANS of the Royal Family will be marking Her Majesty The Queen's 90th birthday with a special tea dance in Hammersmith.

Organisers are encouraging residents to slip on their dancing shoes for the birthday celebration, which takes place at the Grove Neighbourhood Centre next month.

Events are being held over the weekend of June 10 to June 12 to wish the monarch many happy returns.

The Patron's Lunch – a mass street party on the Mall – is the showpiece event, alongside a service of thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral and the traditional Trooping the Colour ceremony.

The tea dance, which will cater for a maximum of 45 people, takes place on Friday, June 10 between 2pm and 4.30pm.



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# Manual trades not just jobs for the boys

BY JACK DIXON

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LONDON businesses are missing out on a skilled female workforce because employers still believe women should not be working "on the tools", according to one of the capital's most outspoken entrepreneurs.

Charlie Mullins, the head of central London firm Pimlico Plumbers, called for employers and educators to show a "united front" and crush the myth that careers in manual trades are jobs for the boys.

Plumbers, builders, carpenters and tilers should "open the door" to the women's workforce and create an "even playing field", he said.

"We are always on the lookout for women tradespeople – but there just aren't the numbers we want," said the self-made millionaire, who started his business from scratch in 1979.

"In my experience the women we have employed on the tools have been as talented and as committed as their male counterparts.

"Schools, colleges, parents and employers need to show a united front that there really is an even playing field and the door is open for more women to become tradespeople."

Mr Mullins, 61, has backed



Charlie Mullins, founder of Pimlico Plumbers, with chimney sweep Jessica Hayes, plumbing apprentice Chloe Sayer and tiler Wendy Gill

a new campaign – Women on the Tools – which is designed to drive more female workers into the manual trades.

It says that around 11 per cent of people working in the

construction industry are women, but only two per cent follow careers in manual trades.

Mr Mullins, who founded Pimlico Plumbers after leav-

ing school at 15 with no qualifications, said he wanted to see women filling half of all manual posts in London.

"The manual trades offer some fantastic career oppor-

tunities with good earning potential but unfortunately there is a perception that these jobs are not for women," he added.

"A Pimlico plumber can earn anything up to £100,000 a year, which is more than respectable – and girls should be encouraged to look at practical and fulfilling careers on the tools."

Chloe Sayer, 19, is currently undertaking an apprenticeship with Pimlico Plumbers.

She encouraged other teenage girls to consider the manual trades as a potential career path.

"[At school] there was very much an attitude that manual trades were for boys and professions like nursing were aimed at girls," she said.

"But the reaction that I have had from family, friends and most importantly the customers I meet has been incredibly positive.

"I am really proud of the fact that I have bucked the trend."

Andrea Kelmanson, chief executive of the Women and Manual Trades charity, which is leading the campaign, said she hoped to "change the cultural perception" of female workers in the manual industries.

"It is disappointing that fewer than two per cent of tradespeople on the tools are women because they can

have a real impact on businesses," she said.

"There is a major shortage of skilled workers in the construction, building trades and maintenance sectors but no one thinks about inviting women in, despite the fact that in the domestic market many customers prefer tradeswomen in their homes.

"Women on the Tools will

“

Schools, colleges, parents and employers need to show a united front that there really is an even playing field and the door is open for more women to become tradespeople

Charlie Mullins

change the cultural perception of careers in the trades and needs schools and colleges to support the campaign to attract more young women onto trade-related training courses that will create a larger group of candidates for employers."

## Over 50? Check your blood pressure often

LONDONERS aged over 50 should have their blood pressure taken regularly as it is the best way of assessing their risk of suffering a potentially fatal stroke, new research suggests.

The study shows that the pattern of systolic blood pressure from middle age onward may tell more than a single blood pressure reading about a person's risk of stroke



and death from other diseases linked to high blood pressure.

Researchers say that understanding the patterns may be important for prevention strategies as blood pressure can change markedly

with age, and should be checked regularly.

The study, which was published in the journal *Hypertension*, suggests that knowing the path of a person's blood pressure from middle age onward may help doctors better assess the health risks posed by high blood pressure, and could lead to earlier interventions to prevent stroke and other diseases.

## Sold! Half-a-million lock-up

BY JACK DIXON

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A LOCK-UP has been sold for nearly £500,000 as investors and homeowners look for new ways to make money out of London's property market.

With prices in the capital up by almost 15 per cent over the past year, it is getting more difficult to find a bargain.

So when a 15ft-wide site in Hammersmith came up for auction with a guide price of £250,000, there was no shortage of interest because of its development potential.

A bidding battle at the Savills auction resulted in it selling for £466,000, with stamp duty taking the final price to nearer £500,000. This is almost two-and-a-half times the price of the aver-



This 15ft-wide plot in Hammersmith sold at auction for £500,000

age home in England and Wales.

But the new buyer has the bonus of knowing the 570 sq/ft site comes with planning permission for it to be converted into an 800 sq/ft, two-storey home.

They now have the job of transforming the site into a

new home while still making a profit.

A two-bedroom property in the area is likely to be worth between £1 million to £1.2 million.

Chris Coleman-Smith, director of Savills Auctions, said: "There were six people bidding on it. Hammersmith and Fulham are very popular areas and it had planning permission.

"At the end of the day it was an auction so the room decides the value.

"If it has been bought by a developer then they will look to make a profit and it is a self-builder they will have a home for under the market price.

"If you carry out the scheme you will have a very nice home at the end of the day – and it is opposite a Waitrose."

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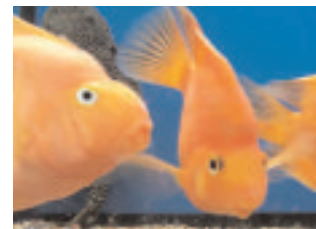
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## Gardening is blooming hard

WITH only a few weeks to go until the RHS Chelsea Flower Show, it seems that spring has finally sprung.

But more than two thirds of Londoners say they are shunning the garden due to aches and pains.

A survey of more than 1,000 adults aged over 45 found that 70 per cent were neglecting the vegetable patch because of pains in their joints.

Six out of 10 said they treated gardening "like a workout" and some said they had turned to ride-on lawnmowers and long-handled shears to make the task easier.

Older gardeners should warm-up before tending to their plants this spring, according to Pernaton, the medical gel manufacturer that carried out the survey.

Louise Lamb, the firm's brand manager, said: "It's clear to see that aches and pains are a real problem when it comes to gardening, and it's worrying that such a high number of those questioned admit that it has prevented them from gardening altogether."

"Gardening is a very physical activity and treating it like a workout would also help. Warming up before digging or weeding could be a great benefit."

## 'Don't mess on the water'

FIRE chiefs have warned Londoners not to put their lives at risk by jumping into shallow water after video footage emerged of a man diving into the Serpentine in Hyde Park.

London Fire Brigade said jumping into lakes from high platforms was "incredibly dangerous" and urged people not to "have a laugh" on the water.

The clip, which was uploaded to Facebook, shows a young man balancing on a post and slowly removing his clothes before jumping into the water.

It is just over two years since 26-year-old Alexander Mitchell drowned in the Serpentine after a night of heavy drinking.

Chris O'Connor, the brigade's head of community safety, said: "It's incredibly dangerous to jump into water like this because it's impossible to see hidden obstacles under the surface. It's very easy to slip and get into difficulties."

"Sadly people drown each year and we would hate for someone else to become another statistic for the sake of having a laugh or showing off to their mates."

There have been 13 water-related deaths in London over the last three years, according to the brigade.

Officers are called to at least one incident a week and crews carry out an average of 30 rescues every year.

## No interest

THOUSANDS of Londoners don't understand financial terminology – and have signed financial contracts without knowing what they are agreeing to, according to new research.

One in six UK adults said they do not understand monetary terms such as ISA and AER – while a third have signed a financial contract without understanding the terms used.

Loan provider Norton Finance surveyed 1,000 adults about their knowledge of terms commonly used by banks.



Visitors to Green Park, Westminster, enjoy the balmy temperatures as London gets its first taste of summer Picture: Adam Gray/SWNS

# Formula One in London? That's no racing certainty

BY JACK DIXON  
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RUMOURS that Formula One racing could take over the streets of London as soon as next year have been rubbished by City Hall chiefs, after the sport's chief executive hinted that a deal could be done.

Bernie Ecclestone, the outspoken F1 magnate who runs the sport, suggested that a high-speed grand prix race could take place in central London during the 2017 season.

The money-spinning event would be "fantastic" for the city and would even top the sport's showpiece race in Monaco for viewing figures, he said.

But the proposal was dismissed as "fanciful" by motorsport commentators, while City Hall branded the idea "unrealistic".

Speculation about the possibility of London staging a Formula One race has been rife for several years but no firm plans have yet been drawn up.

However, in a typically bold move, Mr Ecclestone suggested that the race could take place "next year, if possible".

"There is a small technical issue: who is going to pay for it? But other than that, I cannot see any dramas," he told ITV News.



City Hall officials have dismissed ideas of a Formula One grand prix being staged on the streets of London

"A race in the middle of London would be fantastic. I mean, we're having the same sort of thing in Baku [in Azerbaijan] now and in Monaco."

"Street races have become very popular. We'd have a lot more viewers than they do in Monte Carlo."

Formula Three racing has been brought to Battersea Park in recent years but an event featuring motorsport's biggest stars – Lewis Hamilton, Sebastian Vettel and Nico Rosberg – would be a major coup for the city.

The Government passed legislation in 2014 designed to remove the hurdles that would prevent motorsport racing around the streets of

threat because they are not willing to pay the money that Ecclestone wants ... there is no chance of him wasting much effort on a London street plan unless there is proper finance behind it."

A spokesman for Sadiq Khan, the Mayor of London, said there had been no approach made to City Hall about staging a grand prix and that it would be "unrealistic" to expect a race next year.

Despite the reality check, hopeful F1 fans took to social media to post their own fantasy circuits.

One sketch set out rough proposals for a track running over Westminster Bridge and past Big Ben, before rounding Hyde Park Corner and stretching on to Covent Garden and St Paul's.

Any plans to develop the London race further will be met with fierce opposition from environmental campaigners, who warned last week that a grand prix would be "the worst possible idea".

Simon Birkett, founder and director of Cleaner Air in London, told the *London Weekly News*: "The last thing we need is fast, fossil-fuelled cars racing around London creating an awful lot of noise. It would be a really dumb idea."

"With classic races like Monza [in Italy] under

## Health centre refurbishment

HEALTH bosses have announced plans to refurbish Hammersmith's Milson Road Health Centre, quelling fears that the building could be sold off for housing.

Commissioners say they want to move two GP practices into the building rather than selling it for redevelopment.

It comes after patients, doctors and local councillors shared their views at a consultation event last month.

The Hammersmith and Fulham Clinical Commissioning Group now says it plans to "retain, refurbish and develop" the site.

Toby Hyde, head of strategy at the CCG, said: "Local people at the event showed a clear preference for retaining Milson Road as a health centre rather than selling it for residential use."

"The CCG shares this ambition and as well as developing proposals to relocate two local GP practices to the site, we will use the feedback from the workshop to consider what other services we might be able to locate at Milson Road that would improve the health and wellbeing of local residents."

The CCG says it will involve all local stakeholders in a "co-design" process when drawing up plans for the health centre.

## Healthy life a 'class' issue

RESEARCHERS in London say privately educated children are healthier in later life than those who go to state schools.

The study shows that former private school pupils are more likely to have a lower body mass index by the time they reach middle age, and also spend less time watching television and eat fewer takeaway meals.

Experts analysed the health of more than 8,400 42-year-old men and women, according to the type of secondary school and university they attended.

On average participants who attended comprehensive schools had BMIs that were 1.8 points higher than their privately schooled counterparts, enough to move someone from normal to overweight.

Findings were similar for students who attended prestigious Russell Group universities, compared with graduates of other higher education institutions.

Study lead author Dr David Bann, of University College London's Institute of Education, said: "These findings are further evidence of the importance of the education system to the nation's health. Private schools often have more resources to put into extracurricular activities than the state sector."

## Light relief

THOUSANDS of street lights are to be fitted with energy-efficient LED technology in a bid to cut carbon emissions.

Hammersmith and Fulham council plans to replace every street lamp in the borough with the eco-friendly lights over the next two years.

The move could reduce existing carbon rates by as much as 40 per cent, while saving money on routine maintenance.

'Heritage' lamps used in town centres would be retrofitted with the technology so as not to spoil their decorative effect.

A second phase of planned improvement works could also see lights installed with hi-tech gadgets that measure air quality and count vehicle numbers.



Artist Gareth Wood's extraordinary map of London, filled with historical and cultural references. It has taken him 10 years to complete

SWNS/Gareth Wood

# An artist's map of London? Get lost!

BY LWN REPORTER

THIS incredibly detailed map of London took ten years to draw – but can you spot the hidden landmarks?

Artist Gareth Wood, 35, spent a decade creating his unique personal view of the capital which is filled with historical references.

It also includes famous landmarks, tributes to art, history and culture and symbols of contemporary life. The 116cm x 91cm masterpiece has references to music venues, local communities and major events such as the Olympic Games, the recession and the July 7 terror attacks.

His attention to detail is breathtaking and people spend hours examining Gareth's maps trying to work out the place or event he is trying to reference.

The map has now been accepted by three national collections – including the British Library, which described it as “one of the most personal pieces of cartography” ever seen.

Copies are also on display



Artist Gareth Wood

in the Museum of London and in the Museum and Art Gallery in Bristol, his second other home city.

Gareth, of Bristol, said: “The London Map is much more of a personal exploration and there are a lot more references in the map to events and personal experiences.

“A friend of mine was hit by a car outside Mile End tube station. There are also major events like the 7/7 London bombings and the Olympic bid that are included.

“The maps in general are very contemporary and have layers of information.

“There are lots of nods to music venues – there is so much going on in there.”

He explained: “The method I use when mapping is I live in the place – there is a process in the background

with how I build my art work.

“I am at my happiest when I am working on my maps. The process just completely takes over and I get lost in what I am doing.”

Gareth previously spent 450 hours hand drawing an ink map of Bristol – including some of its best known landmarks and buildings.

“The Bristol map was very much a surface exploration of the city,” he said.

“It references the major landmarks and places in the city that people know.”

Tom Harper, a map curator at The British Library, said: “The map is one of the most personal pieces of cartography I have ever seen. It goes to show just how essential maps are in drawing a bond between who we are and the places we inhabit.”

An exhibition of Gareth's works, named *Get Lost*, is taking place next month at the Palm Tree Gallery on Portobello Road.

A limited number of London Town art prints are available to collectors at [www.fullermaps.com](http://www.fullermaps.com)



Some of the references to be found in Gareth Wood's map

- Big Ben in Westminster
- The Shard, pictured
- The Tate Modern on the south bank
- The London Eye, pictured
- Battersea Power Station
- The Serpentine in Hyde Park
- Tower of London
- HMS Belfast, pictured
- Cutty Sark
- The Square Mile
- Peregrine Falcon over Parliament Hill
- The Millennium Dome
- The Aylesbury Estate in Camberwell
- Cycle Superhighway
- Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, pictured
- Canals of Little Venice



# Bored youth aimed laser pen at police helicopter

BY COURT REPORTER

A TEENAGER shone a laser pen at a police helicopter after becoming bored when he lost his internet connection.

At Hammersmith Youth Court the 16 year old was warned that had he been older he would have been jailed for the "deliberate and persistent" attack.

The teen shone the £5 pen at the police chopper for more than five minutes, causing the pilot to be dazzled and having to stop what he was doing.

The court was told that the boy, who had just turned 16, was playing with his Playstation remotely with friends and got bored when the internet cut off.

He had bought the pen to play with his cat, but was surprised when he shone it at the helicopter and saw that it had reached it. Police were sent to the location where the laser was coming from and

found him in his room. The boy admitted recklessly or negligently endangering an aircraft and apologised for his actions. He was planning to meet the helicopter crew to say sorry.

District Judge Richard Blake told the boy, who cannot be named for legal reasons, that what he did was a



"foolish" and "immature" act.

The court heard how the boy, from west London, had been playing his Playstation on the night of February 3, but "got bored" when the internet cut off.

Robert Simpson, prosecuting, said: "The offence dates back to February 3, 2016.

"A message was transmitted from the helicopter to the control that they were the victims of a laser attack. Some officers were dispatched to the location and identified a window which had a blue light on.

"Officers went into the house and came across the defendant's parents. He admitted he was shining a laser out of the window, but didn't realise it was a police helicopter. The defendant said, 'I was playing my PlayStation, when the internet was cut off and so I couldn't play with my friends. So I got bored'."

Mr Simpson added: "He told police, 'I didn't think it would reach the helicopter, but it did and I apologise'.

"He had shone it at the helicopter and caused the driver to be dazzled, causing it to have to stop what it was doing. He said, 'I didn't realise it would reach, but then I saw the beam touch it'."

Mr Simpson said: "When asked why he did it, the defendant said, 'to see if it would reach'. He was asked whether it was deliberate, and he said, 'I didn't know it would do any harm'."

Mr Simpson added that the pilot had said it was "persistent, deliberate attack in excess of five minutes".

But Andrew Moxon, defending, said that the boy was "full and frank with police" and "extremely remorseful" for his actions.

In summing up, District Judge Blake said: "You apolo-

gised to the police for your actions and you have again apologised in court.

"This is a very serious offence. Unusually whilst it carries a maximum of five years in the crown court, my powers are much more limited in the youth court."

In serving the boy with a youth referral order, Judge Blake said: "You will have to do 15 hours of reparation, attend a thinking course, engage in constructive work. A suggestion has been made that arrangements may be made for you to meet the helicopter crew and explain yourself."

The boy said he was sorry to the "pilot, the police and the court and everyone who is involved," adding that he "though it was cool" to have a laser pen, but has "learned his lesson".

The boy's parents were also ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £20, which will be paid at a rate of £5 per week.

New figure suggest that UK Pilots are dealing with an average of three laser incident every day.

A total of 1,439 laser incidents were reported at UK airports in 2015, with the largest number of cases, 121, occurring at Heathrow airport. In February, a Virgin Atlantic flight was forced to return to Heathrow when the co-pilot reported feeling unwell after a laser was shone at the plane.

Earlier this year, following a similar incident, the British Airline Pilots Association said laser pointers should be classed as offensive weapons.

It is illegal to shine a light at a plane "so as to dazzle the pilot", but not an offence to own or carry a laser.

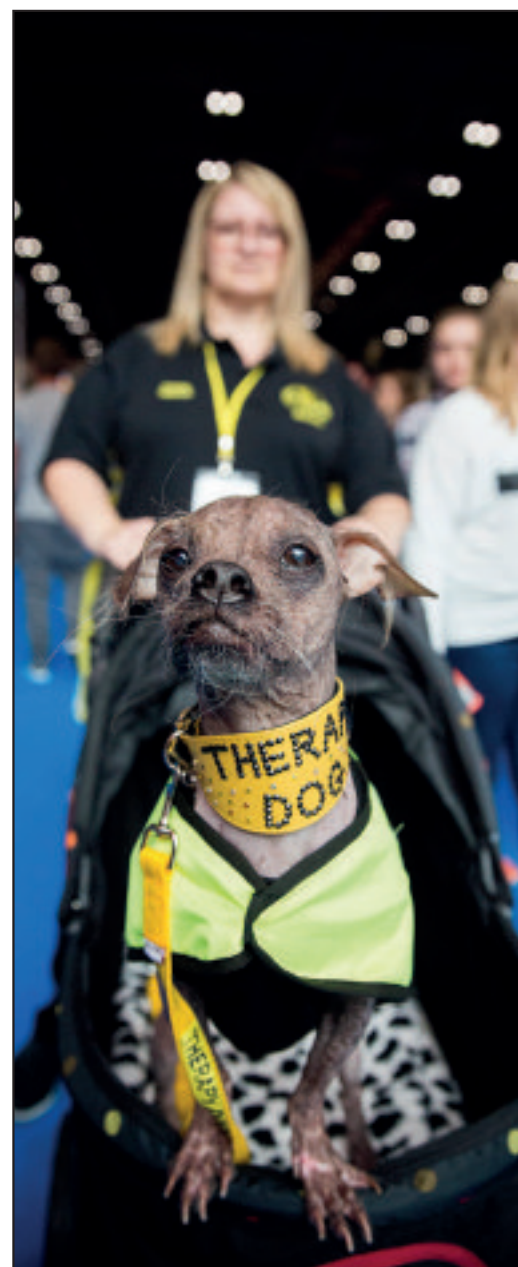
The union says they are "incredibly dangerous", and could blind pilots.

Former pilot and member of the pilot's union Dave Smith told the BBC that legislation on lasers – first introduced in 2010 – should be much tougher.

"The law from 2010 is just an offence of shining the laser into the cockpit, but of course that is very difficult to prove," he said.

BALPA is calling for sales of all but the lowest power devices to be regulated.

"Lasers should be specifically included in the offensive weapons legislation so that if someone is found to be carrying a laser without good reason then they are treated in the same way as if they are carrying a knife," a spokeswoman added.



Oscar, aged one, below, looks at Mugly, the World's Ugliest Dog 2012, who is now used as a Pets As Therapy (PAT) dog, during The National Pet Show at ExCeL London. The show included hundreds of weird and wonderful animals, from dogs and cats to crested geckos, giant tortoises and bearded dragons. It also offered advice from vets and pet experts and the latest pet products, food and gadgets

Pictures: SWNS



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## Security tighter after fire attack on Ecclestone's flat

FORMULA One heiress Petra Ecclestone has upped security since her £68 million Chelsea mansion was firebombed.

And a neighbour said she was "unsettled" by the attack that saw a petrol bomb lobbed into the courtyard of the ten bedroom house.

A woman in her 50s, who declined to be named, said: "I knew absolutely nothing about the attack but they've upped the number of security guards recently. It's pretty unsettling, I have to say."

Ausra Valinciene, 33, a



Petra Ecclestone targeted

housekeeper working in a house opposite the Chelsea mansion said: "Security guards reported it to the police they are not taking it seriously."

"They have new security guards and I was also talking to one was chatting with one and

he told me about it. The family must be worried."

A spokesman for Mrs Ecclestone's husband, James Stunt, said: "As had been reported, Mr Stunt and his family were not in the country when the attack occurred."

"It was a minor incident and no damage was done. Although Mr Stunt's security people reported it to the police they are not taking it seriously."

"It is thought to be the action of a disaffected member of the public who disapproves of the Stunts' lifestyle."

## Confiscation consternation

LONDON City Airport has revealed its most unusual confiscated items – which include £40,000 in cash, a meat hammer and dog shampoo.

Tins of tuna, pickled gherkins and a fashion belt made of bullet casings are also among the unusual items seized from hand luggage.

Meanwhile, top of the most confiscated list is a snowglobe, followed by Harrods and Fortnum and Mason jams and spreads, and toiletries.

Also in the top ten is Nutella chocolate spread, Marmite and fluffy handcuffs – with an average of two pairs taken by smirking security each month.

Declan Collier, the airport's chief executive, said: "Last year the airport welcomed 4.3 million passengers along with an eclectic range of restricted items.

"Snow globes continue to be a favourite souvenir, perhaps as a paper weight for the business travellers who make up more than half of our passengers.

"Unfortunately, these and other liquid items aren't allowed on board and it's best to pack them safely in the hold luggage."

The list followed a YouGov survey of more than 2,000 Brits which found that 13 per cent – roughly one in eight – have had an item confiscated at an airport.

## New arthritis breakthrough

AN artificial cartilage made on a 3D printer could be available in the next decade – offering hope for millions of arthritis sufferers.

The synthetic tissue is strong and flexible and can even help damaged cells regrow, relieving excruciating pain from damaged joints, say experts at Imperial College London.

It could even speed up recovery from knee injuries – such as that suffered by England footballer Danny Welbeck, who will miss Euro 2016 after being ruled out for nine months.

The 'bio-glass' material mimics the shock-absorbing and load bearing qualities of real cartilage.

ICL researchers are now hoping to use it to develop implants for replacing damaged cartilage discs between vertebrae.

Developer Professor Julian Jones said: "Bio-glass has been around since the 1960s, originally developed around the time of the Vietnam War to help heal bones of veterans damaged in conflict. Our research shows that a new flexible version of this material could be used as cartilage like material."

At least 8.5 million people in Britain suffer from osteoarthritis which is caused by wear and tear on joints where the cartilage that cushions movement is worn away.

## Speculation

A RARE collection of historic spectacles are set to raise a few eyebrows when they go under the hammer in London later this year – for an eye-watering £5,000.

The 62 pairs of glasses date back to the early 18th century and give lucky collectors the chance to see first hand how spectacles have changed over the years.

The collection, which comes with a price tag of £4,950, covers the making of optical lenses and frames, demonstrating the shifts in eyewear trends.

The glasses will be sold by Voyager Press at London's Olympia later this month.



A beauty blogger painted her face red for the day to raise awareness of a common but little known skin condition called rosacea. Sarah Jagger, 37, pictured, took to the streets of London to ask people about their experiences with the condition, which makes skin look flushed. One in ten Brits suffer from the illness, which can result in painful lesions, but only one in 600 are actually diagnosed each year. Sarah, who suffers from rosacea herself, works as a beauty blogger and make-up artist and said she spends a lot of time covering up her own condition, but now she wants to make people more aware of it

Picture: SWNS

# Sadiq's first week as new London Mayor

**Reporter Jack Dixon reviews new London Mayor Sadiq Khan's first week in what he has described as 'the best job in politics'**

### MONDAY

SADIQ Khan says he feels like "the boy who has won the golden ticket" as he begins his first official day in charge at City Hall.

The new mayor is met by a pack of photographers as he hops off the Tube on his way into work, before holding a series of meetings with his new team.

In a canny political move, he then meets with Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn to quell speculation of a rift with the party's top brass.

"There is no such thing as a glorious defeat", he tells the Islington MP, as he warns that Labour must appeal to Tory voters.

### TUESDAY

IN his first policy announcement, Sadiq introduces a one-hour 'hopper' fare for bus passengers. The move will cut the cost of travel for millions of Londoners on low incomes, he says, echoing his well-worn election mantra: "My dad drove the number 44 bus and transport in London has always been a big part of my life."

Attention then turns global as the mayor condemns US presidential hopeful Donald Trump's offer to exempt him from his proposed ban on Muslims entering the country.

"This isn't just about me – it's about my friends, my family and everyone who comes from a background similar to mine, anywhere in the world," he says.

Sadiq has just enough time to show Paris mayor Anne Hidalgo around the city, promising solidarity with the French capital in the wake of last year's terror attacks.

### WEDNESDAY

PRIME Minister David Cameron congratulates Sadiq on his election victory during PMQs but dodges questions on the allegedly negative campaign tactics employed by Tory candidate Zac Goldsmith.

Meanwhile, the new mayor faces the cameras for a tough interview with US broadcaster CNN at City Hall. Having stepped down as MP for his home town of Tooting, a date of June 16 is announced for the by-election to replace him.

But there is no time to waste as Sadiq is thrust into the debate on airport expansion. After Heathrow pledges to go above and beyond the environmental requirements of the Airports Commission, the mayor stands firm: "I don't want to hear more warm words from Heathrow. Gatwick is the solution."

### THURSDAY

SADIQ comes face to face with Met Commissioner Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe as he

observes a terror response training exercise in central London.

"Nothing is more important to me than keeping Londoners safe," he says, as he welcomes the news that 400 extra firearms officers will be on the streets within 12 months.

Meanwhile, the War on Trump escalates, after the presumptive Republican candidate appears to soften his stance on raising the drawbridge to Muslims.

"Your views on Islam are ignorant," Sadiq tells him. "Not all Muslims are terrorists. Not all Muslims think that western liberal values are incompatible with Islam."

At the end of another long day, the mayor hitches a lift back to City Hall with the Met's On the Water team.

### FRIDAY

SADIQ risks another row with the Labour leadership as he tells the *New York Times* that Mr Corbyn has failed to "call out" anti-semitism in the party.

Referring to his own experiences of hate crime growing up in south London, he says: "If somebody is saying views that are appalling, disgusting and clearly anti-semitic, I've got to call it out."

"The fact that that person happens to be from my party, the fact that the leader of my party is failing to call it out, that's irrelevant. I have to call it out."



## Driver flees as bus 'blows up'

A BUS driver fled for his life when his bus mysteriously 'blew up'.

Eyewitnesses reported seeing the driver run for his life as smoke poured from the burning single-decker – before it exploded.

The number 162 caught fire on a quiet street in Bromley last Tuesday evening.

The driver was reportedly forced to flee from the bus before the emergency services were called.

Eyewitness Alfie Lewis, 16, said: "I just saw smoke drift past my door and a small fire coming from the back end of the bus."

"The driver and anybody especially close to the bus backed away when the fire was at its worst. I think most people feared that pieces were going to begin flying off."

The bus was not carrying any passengers and the driver was unharmed. The Met Police confirmed no-one had been injured in the blaze, and a spokesperson said the flames were quickly extinguished by the fire brigade.

## Experts offer the hole truth

A GIANT sinkhole that opened up outside a London church last week may have been caused by "chalk dissolution," according to an expert.

Dr Mark Cowley, a Chartered Geologist and Scientist, said the sinkhole found in Greenwich was a "classic example" of chalk dissolution.

He said: "Generally sinkholes are what are caused by a dissolution of limestone in the chalk, which is highly susceptible to dissolution by natural groundwater percolating through fissures and joints."

"This dissolution can create three common types of features within the chalk, grouped together under the generic term 'dissolution' features."

"These can be either sinkholes – depressions at the ground caused by the collapse of overlying chalk or superficial deposits into underground voids created by dissolution, solution pipes or swallow holes."

"Swallow holes can suddenly occur due to water flowing from leaking mains services, leaking drains or poorly constructed soakaway systems."

## They've got a ticket to bride

A PAIR of newlyweds surprised their guests on their big day by organising transport to the reception – by train.

Holly, 29, and Ben Mahoney-Gibbs, 30, invited their entire wedding party to join them on a 2.34pm Southeastern train to the reception.

The party of 70 were handed train tickets after the couple said their vows at St Stephen's Church in Dulwich before they made their way to the Brockwell Lido for the reception.

When they arrived at the Sydenham Hill station, the group were treated to a personalised message on the customer information screens which told rail users: "Rear coach reserved for Holly and Ben's wedding party."

The group were delighted to find that the South Eastern train was even on time, and the carriage was decorated for the celebration.

They travelled on the train two stops to Herne Hill and the journey took just four minutes.

# Capital nights

EDITED BY GEOFF BAKER

**H**E was the pioneering poet who catalogued the grim realities of 'Chickentown' England and brought an ageing art form kicking and screaming into the mainstream.

But John Cooper Clarke seemed forever destined to play the supporting role – the opening act for the punk icons of the late 1970s and the potty-mouthed underdog of the professional poetry world, writes Jack Dixon.

How then can his remarkable resurgence in popularity be explained? Because, against all the odds, Dr John is cashing in on arguably his most successful ever stint. Clarke is on his way back to west London as part of another whirlwind UK tour that kicks off in the next few weeks.

Despite reaching the ripe age of 67 – somewhat miraculously, considering his near-fatal narcotic adventures – the Bard of Salford will be on stage three nights a week right through to July.

It's been an incredible second coming for Clarke, who has garnered a whole new generation of young fans enraptured by his witty lyrics and machine-gun delivery.

From the powerful imagery depicting the grim lives of the Manchester underclass on the "uneasy, queasy, beastly" *Beasley Street* to the rib-tickling naughtiness of *You'll Never See a Nipple in the Daily Express*, the bard's poems have emerged reborn for a millennial audience.

Perhaps it's Clarke's utter refusal to embrace the 21st century that makes him such an appealing anachronism to young fans.

He resists the flittering trends of fashion, sticking with the trademark Neapolitan suit and cravat combination for decades.

And despite living in an age of mod-cons he goes without a computer – for fear of morphing

**Rhyme that chimes with a new generation**



John Cooper Clarke entertains an appreciative audience with witty lyrics

into a lifeless zombie. "You shouldn't give an obsessive type a computer," he told

*ShortList* magazine. "If you bought me a computer you'd find me dead six weeks later under a pile of pizza boxes. I'd watch Elvis videos for the rest of my short, morbidly obese life. It's computer or career for me."

The Bard made an unlikely return to the airwaves in 2013 when the Arctic Monkeys recorded a musical version of his love ballad *I Wanna Be Yours* for their hit album *AM*. In truth, Clarke never went away. But tying his work to northern rock's new hero – the Monkeys' Alex Turner – seemed to serve as a tonic for young fans.

It's testament to the strength of Clarke's cannon that even his oldest works hit home 40 years after they were penned.

Like digging into a buried chest of literary treasures, his back catalogue is a feast of delights for audiences old and new.

The iconic *Evidently Chickentown*, with its scatter-gun expletives, sits alongside the snarling *I Don't Wanna Be Nice* and the lilting *Valley of the Lost Women* – each tale depicting the grey misery of "our dismal daily lives".

But there are touching moments too, often showered with a poignant humour. *A Heart Disease Called Love* and the aforementioned *I Wanna Be Yours* are the stuff of wedding-day vows, while *Health Fanatic*, *Hire Car* and *Majorca* spin yarns of the romanticism of everyday heroes.

Known as much for his sparkling wit and easy on-stage persona, Clarke's attuned live performance is part poetry/part stand-up, spinning elaborate anecdotes to tee up his quick-fire readings.

When he returns to London on his latest tour, corpsing crowds are set to sell out the Shepherd's Bush Empire. Who knows how many more times Clarke will make the journey?

"If you ever see me in a vegetative state – drooling and incontinent, having to be reminded of my own name – just leave me in peace," he told fans on his last visit to the Empire. "You see, I've been there before – and it's not that bad."

**John Cooper Clarke is performing at the Shepherd's Bush Empire on Friday, July 1**

## Beach party (in car park)

**H**OLIDAYMAKERS in search of a wild night out may not need to spend thousands of pounds jet-setting round the world this summer – sunbathers will be able to catch the rays and sip on cocktails in a Brixton car park instead.

A pop-up 'beach boulevard' is set to open at the end of May on the site of a disused parking lot on the Coldharbour Lane industrial estate.

Organisers are encouraging commuters to "escape the hustle and bustle of London" by stopping off at the beach on their way home from work.

A jacuzzi and outdoor cinema are among the entertainments being lined up to entice partygoers, as the run-down rooftop car park is transformed into a Miami-themed paradise.

Street food stands and bars will be installed around the pop-up beach as event planners try to coax holiday-makers away from the airport.

The idea was the brainchild of two Brixton entrepreneurs – Freddie Fison and Jack Gutteridge – from Odd Events Ltd.

The pair said they wanted to create an unusual community project and give Londoners "something different" to enjoy over the summer. And the beach boulevard initiative is helping good causes as well, with several local charities set to cash in on funds raised from ticket sales during the event.

"We are very pleased to have been granted a full licence by Lambeth council and are really excited about bringing a fully interactive Miami beach to the heart of Brixton," Mr Fison said.

"We hope that it will be an exciting and enjoyable experience for the local community, while also raising funds for good causes."

The unlikely party venue will be open between 6pm and 11pm every day, and between 1pm and midnight on Saturdays, with tickets available from £4.

## Will TV trash Euro debate?

**C**HANNEL 4 has become the first broadcaster to make a pitch in the In-Out Euro vote – by bringing back *Eurotrash* to remind UK viewers what they won't be missing if they vote to leave the EU. Or will they?

The show, which won a big British following for revealing the absolute worst of Continental TV, is to be given a one-off return on the eve of the referendum on June 23.

Although Channel 4 denies that the deliberate scheduling of *Eurotrash* is a bid to assist the Brexit vote, the Leave camp's heavy hitters – including Boris Johnson and Kensington MP Victoria Borwick – must be chuffed that viewers will be caused to remember just how dreadful is much of Euro popular culture. The show, hosted by Antoine de Caunes, pictured, originally ran on C4 from 1993 to 2007 and pulled in three million viewers a week, substantially more than the audience of 900,000 that C4 averages in the Friday night *Eurotrash* slot.



## London strings along with new Radiohead album

**F**ANS have had to wait five years for the return of Radiohead – one of Britain's most admired alternative rock bands – but their highly anticipated ninth album has finally appeared.

Hundreds of thousands of Londoners rushed online to download the album, *A Moon Shaped Pool*, when it was suddenly released on May 8.

Sharp, political lyrics are mixed with eerie, other-worldly beats – but London musicians are at the heart of the band's new sound.

The soaring strings that underpin the album are provided



The London Contemporary Orchestra collaborated with Radiohead

by the London Contemporary Orchestra – the latest in a series of collaborations with Radiohead guitarist Johnny Greenwood.

The classical ensemble, set up by maestros Robert Ames and Hugh Brunt, plays the starring role at the centre of the band's latest

masterpiece. Based in Covent Garden, the award-winning orchestra provides the lush sonic backdrop to Radiohead's ambitious new songs.

It's not the first time the orchestra has strayed away from its classical roots, having collaborated with the likes of Arcade Fire, Foals, Beck and Goldfrapp in recent years. They first struck up a relationship with Radiohead through Greenwood, who teamed up with the orchestra to compose the original score for Paul Thomas Anderson's 2012 film *The Master*.

But *A Moon Shaped Pool*, which

was received with huge acclaim by ravenous fans last week, will bring the LCO to a whole new audience.

"The London Contemporary Orchestra has become one of Britain's brightest beacons for new music," judges at the Royal Philharmonic Society Music Awards said of the ensemble.

"Its repertoire is adventurous yet it attracts sell-out crowds to extraordinary venues and has a remarkable online following."

"It nurtures new audiences, forges fruitful alliances across the stylistic spectrum and champions challenging scores with virtuosic flair."

# Capital nights

EDITED BY GEOFF BAKER

**J**EREMY Corbyn has been warned to beware political death by puppetry as ITV prepares to launch a new series of its *Newzoids* show with the aim of ridiculing the Labour leader, writes Geoff Baker.

Mr Corbyn is among the figures who will be remorselessly mocked and derided when the topical animation satire show reveals its new puppets later this year and allies fear that a rubber drubbing could damage him more than any vicious exchange at Prime Minister's Question Time.

It seems that once a TV puppet show makes a mockery of political figures, viewers can never again take them seriously and *Newzoids* could hurt Mr Corbyn's standing as a serious contender for the keys of Number 10.

"Corbyn is a godsend for the *Newzoids* team who will be exaggerating his features to a ludicrous degree for the puppet and will be taking the mickey out of everything from his problems with singing the National Anthem to dressing like he's wearing

pyjamas," said an insider.

"If he only be done for a laugh but as politicians from the days of *Spitting Image* know, TV puppets can cause a lot of grief to your aspirations at Westminster."

Although both Margaret Thatcher and Norman Tebbit were said to be rather fond of their spots on *Spitting Image*, on which they often came across as bullies and tyrants, other politicians used to dread the show.

Prime Minister John Major was said to be none too keen on his depiction, a tediously-grey puppet obsessed with eating peas, and Home Secretary Kenneth Baker was not exactly knocked out with delight to be parodied in the form of a slug.

Friends of Lib-Dem leader Lord Steel have long debated whether his depiction, as a teeny weeny puppet, damaged his chances of leading the party when *Spitting Image* constantly scripted him as whipping boy to suave rival David Owen, and although Lord Steel has denied that it hurt his career, his wife claimed otherwise.

In her book *Tales From The Tap End*, Lady Steel wrote: "David was almost fatally wounded as a political figure by the representation of him week after week on the satirical TV programme *Spitting Image* as the puppet in Owen's pocket."

"The caricature was well short of the truth but it was what people saw, and what they believed. I could hardly bear to watch it and often left the room. David always sat through it."

"I suppose he needed to know what they were saying and his marvellous, resilient humour even allowed him to see the funny side."

"But for me, loving him and knowing his toughness and determination, it was deeply wounding to see him so ridiculed."

Mr Corbyn has been warned, as have other celebs due to find themselves newly "zoided", including Adele, Donald Trump, Zayn Malik and Danny Dyer.

Watch out  
Jeremy,  
Newzoids  
are out to  
get you

## Where now, Sharon asks

SHARON OSBOURNE has finally taken to social media to thank fans for their support after her split from husband Ozzy.

*The Talk* co-host opened up on the show about how she had been coping after she confirmed her divorce from her husband of 33 years, and said she thought looking at tweets would be "salt in the wound".

In a tweet on Wednesday, she wrote: "Huge thanks to everyone that has been so supportive to me with kind words and wishes. I wish there was another word I could use than thank you."

Speaking on *The Talk*, she said: "I have no idea what I am going to be doing for the rest of my life. I don't know where I am going, who I'm going with and I just need time to think about what I really want for the rest of my life because this is really like getting to the last chapter of the book and I want to think about it very carefully."



Osborne, Miliband and Farage got the *Newzoids* treatment last time out

## Rich rewards for artists' fund

### REVIEW

Telegram ■ The Pearl Harts ■ Elf Kid ■ Mullally  
The Lexington, Islington  
\*\*\*\*

**N**OT only did this bumper gig at the Lexington celebrate the promise of four new acts destined for great things – it shone a bright light on the brilliant work of the capital's supportive musical community in helping to put them on the path to success.

Smooth neo-soul singer Mullally, audacious grime artist Elf Kid, chug-rock duo The Pearl Harts and psych four-piece Telegram have all received a helping hand from the Emerging Artists Fund – a scheme set up by charity Help

Musicians UK and indie label Pledge Music to support up-and-coming bands.

This was a chance to show their appreciation for the project, which pumped thousands of pounds into London's new music scene last year.

The gig was truly reflective of the capital's diverse and joyous mix of musical tastes – Lewisham rapper Elf Kid, joined by able accomplice Blakey, leapt across the tiny Lexington stage spitting tales from the streets of South London, but minutes later the same crowd was lapping up the rough-and-ready gutter rock of female duo The Pearl Harts.

However, it is headliners Telegram that have made the

biggest leap since cashing in on the EAF scheme.

They described their return to the Lexington as a "spiritual homecoming" and wasted no time in raising the roof, leaving the walls of the Islington venue shaken from pillar to post.

The band's superb debut album, *Operator*, was released to much fanfare in February – and they recreated its best moments here, channelling the raw energy of The Libertines in a lung-busting set that included a pin-point cover of Bowie's *Heroes*.

If music fans ever needed confirmation that London is the breeding ground for bright young talent, then this was it.

JACK DIXON



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# The Windsors: is anyone amused?

BY GEOFF BAKER

geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

EXPECT red faces at the annual general meeting of the Royal Television Society next week if its Patron turns up. *Its members must be praying that he doesn't.*

Prince Charles has been royal patron of the RTS since 1997 and his praise for and support of its members has always been keenly welcomed at its get-togethers.

At a recent event, the Prince of Wales hailed the TV industry which generates more than £17.5 billion for the economy and was enthusiastic in his praise for "these amazing programmes which would not have been possible without the immense talent of British writers, producers, directors and on-screen talent."

But he may have changed his mind now, since the start of *The Windsors* on Channel 4.

Insiders admit it could be "most embarrassing" if Charles attends the AGM on May 24 in the light of *The Windsors* – and even more so if he brings his wife.

For in the C4 soap opera the Duchess of Cornwall has been lampooned to levels never seen before on British TV. Even by the standards of *Spitting Image*, *The Windsors* is so near the knuckle it's exposed to the bone.

Which is a bit of a poke in the eye for the Duchess, not



Channel 4's bawdy satire of the Royal Family, *The Windsors*, may not be going down very well as a viewing option at Clarence House

least as she and Charles have hosted parties for RTS members at their own home, Clarence House.

The Duchess could be forgiven for spitting in the punch and adding Sennacot to the hors d'oeuvres if the

RTS comes knocking for another party, for in *The Windsors* she is depicted as:

■ A gin-drenched chain-smoker who drinks cocktails at breakfast.

■ A poisonous witch determined to stop William becoming king.

ing king.

■ The arch-enemy of the Duchess of Cambridge whom she constantly attempts to undermine.

■ Wearing stockings and suspenders for examinations by her gynaecologist at the dining table in Kensington Palace.

■ Deliberately becoming pregnant at the age of 68 in order that her child will be monarch.

*The Windsors* also depicts Prince Edward an alcoholic has-been, Princess Beatrice, Princess Eugenie and Prince Harry as half-wits, with the latter being unable to even read. The Duke of Edinburgh is painted as a foul-mouthed tyrant and Prince Charles himself is played by Harry Enfield as a simpleton.

However, the Royal Family may take comfort from the official viewing figures for the outrageous comedy. Although C4 is crowing delight that *The Windsors* drew a first week audience of all of 1.7 million watching the show, another way of looking at it is that 62.3 million couldn't be bothered.

The reactions of those who have seen the show are mixed. Many took to Twitter

after the first episode to post that they were "howling" with laughter at the sheer audacity of the soap, calling it "gloriously silly" and "like *Made In Chelsea* for the royal family".

Others have howled their indignation and fury that the royals could be so cruelly mocked, calling it "completely unfunny", "a royal comedy disaster", "utter rubbish" and "looks set to be the worst TV show of all time".

Adam Postans, *Daily Mirror* TV critic, wrote: "It took Prince Charles, played by Harry Enfield, who must be wondering how on earth he's now lumbered with *The Windsors* on his glittering CV, to deliver some common sense: 'What happens in the Duchy of Cornwall stays in the Duchy of Cornwall.'"

Postans concluded: "Channel 4, he's speaking to you."

"The hardest act to pull off in television is making a show that's so bad it's good."

"So, fair play to Channel 4 for at least giving it a crack."

Although the writers, George Jeffrie and Bert Tyler-Moore, are staying tight-lipped on whether The Queen will also be scandalously sent-up in future episodes, they are already making their excuses in the event that the show has upset Charles and Camilla.

"It's not an observational documentary, remember it's our fictional take on the royals," says Tyler-Moore.

"We've painted our Camilla as an out-and-out cartoon villain, which isn't the public perception of the real Camilla. We imbued her with that ludicrous role because we thought it would be fun to have an arch, soap style villain."

"In the case of Camilla, there is the whole idea, often, in the papers, pieces saying 'Maybe we should skip a generation and sideline Charles and Camilla, and have Will and Kate as the next king and queen'. So I suppose we came up with the idea of our Camilla as the villain because, if she believes that press, she might get jealous, and hence try and plot to undermine Wills and Kate. That's an invention on our part, really, for the purposes of comedy and satire."

One suspects *The Windsors* may not quite be seen like that at Kensington Palace.



Channel 4's satire singles out the Duchess of Cornwall for particular lampooning

## Duke of hazard: royal donation is a life-saver

THE Duke of Kent is delighted after giving an oxygen-mask for pets to the fire service which saved the life of a dog on its first day.

The device was used during a house fire call in Sevenoaks at the end of last month – less than 24 hours after it was installed on the engine.

Sevenoaks Watch Manager Danny Barrett said they used thermal imaging cameras to discover the family was not at home, but their dog had been overcome with smoke.

The hero fireman said: "We



Life-saver: the Duke of Kent

quickly established that the family were not at home but that their dog had been overcome with smoke.

"Meanwhile, the resident had returned home to discover her home in flames and feared the worst for her pet – but firefighters had other plans.

"They took the dog to safety and treated her with oxygen using a special pet mask that had only arrived on the fire station that morning."

The Duke said: "I am delighted to hear that the animal oxygen mask that I donated with the help of Snokey Paws was used to save the life of a family pet so soon after it had been delivered."

Snokey Paws is a charity set up to equip all fire service in the UK with life-saving pet oxygen masks with donations from the public and businesses.

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# Talk of the town

BY NICKY SWEETLAND

**T**HERE are few musical theatre stars these days who can claim to have had a musical written for them by Lord Andrew Lloyd Webber, writes Nicky Sweetland.

There is one however, who still occasionally performs the iconic songs which were developed especially for her unique vocal range. A real living legend of musical theatre, Marti Webb will once again thrill the lucky few in a concert at the St James Studio next month, a show which will also feature some of the biggest stars of the West End.

Webb, who during her illustrious career has played some of the most famous roles both on Broadway and here in London, shot to fame in the 1980s when the single *Take That Look Off Your Face* raced up the UK charts, peaking at the number three spot. The standard made the singer a household name and she became synonymous with the one-woman musical, *Tell Me On A Sunday*, from which it originated. Webb went on to perform the show around the world, earning enormous adulation.

The celebrated performer, who is now 72, classes herself as semi-retired and is not a fan of doing interviews with the press, so when I was afforded the honour of talking to Marti at her West Country home, as a lifelong fan, I was thrilled. I first asked her about the one night only show at the St James, which is called *Sunday at the Musicals*.

Marti said: "Well, it's for the Royal Variety Charity which, as you know, helps young people in the profession. It's wonderful and they do so much for people."

"Paul (Burton, the producer) does this show every year and this year it features mainly female singers. That's what makes it different from others and it's also in a wonderful venue, needless to say."

Following leading roles in *Stop the World, I Want to Get Off*, *Half a Sixpence*, alongside Tommy Steele and in *Godspell* opposite David Essex, Webb was flown to New York to take over from Elaine Paige in the Broadway production of *Evita* in 1979.

At her original audition for the show, Andrew Lloyd Webber had taken a particular interest in her voice and along with the revered lyricist Don Black talked about developing the musical *Tell Me On A Sunday* especially for her.

Over 35 years later, Webb still loves to sing the powerful and emotional songs which

**Marti:  
It's such a  
privilege to  
sing these  
songs**

were written with her personality and voice in mind.

She said: "They're wonderful songs and I feel privileged to sing them really and also to be known for them, which is even more wonderful, I think. I was such a lucky girl that he (Andrew Lloyd Webber) wrote them for me, I still can't get over it."

The concert at the St James features a whole host of stars, who will perform songs from musicals past and present. The list of performers will include Natasha Barnes, who has hit the headlines recently as Sheridan Smith's understudy in *Funny Girl* at the Savoy Theatre, *Kinky Boots*' Amy Ross and *Show Boat*'s Rebecca Trehearn. As such a stalwart of musical theatre and having performed the songs on so many previous occasions, I ask if she will still be nervous?

"I'm always petrified and always worried about it. I think the day that I'm not is the day that I stop."

"It keeps you on your toes, but I'm always petrified and

always shaking like a leaf."

*Sunday at the Musicals* is in the opulent and elegant studio space at the St James, where the performers are literally within touching distance of the audience.

Having played some of the biggest venues around the globe, Marti tells me that this type of setting gives the singers a different feel to their performance. It brings something else into it, because they are so close. It makes it so intimate. It's almost like you're doing it one to one and it's such a lovely venue."

■ *Sunday at the Musicals* is at the St James Studio on June 5. If you would like further details, you can visit the website the website [stjamestheatre.co.uk](http://stjamestheatre.co.uk)

Marti Webb in full voice, above, and right, in 2014 at the second anniversary party for The St James Theatre in Victoria.

Picture: Joanne Davidson

## Allegro comes to Playhouse

THE Rodgers and Hammerstein musical *Allegro* will have its European première this summer when the acclaimed team of Thom Southerland and Danielle Tarento stage the classic show at the Southwark Playhouse.

With an epic score by Richard Rodgers and a groundbreaking – for its time – book by Oscar Hammerstein II, Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Allegro* opened in 1947 and now, almost 70 years later, will finally get its professional European première.

The show is set in 1905 in a small mid-western town where the wife of a local doctor gives birth to a baby boy, Joseph Taylor Jr. *Allegro* chronicles nearly four decades in the life of this average Joe – through his childhood, from college dorm to marriage altar, and on to his own medical career; from the tranquility of his hometown to the hectic din of big city life and a mid-life discovery of who he is and what



Thom Southerland and Danielle Tarento plan *Allegro*

his life is truly about. Ultimately he learns the most important lessons of all – the value of family, that money isn't everything and that home really is where the heart is.

*Allegro*, with music by Richard Rodgers, book and lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II, was their third collaboration for the stage following *Oklahoma!* and *Carousel*. The new production at Southwark Playhouse will be produced by Tarento and directed by Southerland, the award-winning team behind *Grey Gardens*, *Grand Hotel*, *Titanic*, *Parade* and *Mack & Mabel*.

Southerland said: "It's wonderful to have been given permission to look at this show, to bring it to life and to let audiences who love Rodgers and Hammerstein's music listen to a score that was written in the glory days, the golden age of Broadway musicals."

Southerland is working on a new adaptation of the book and the production will have brand new orchestrations.

*Allegro* will open for a six-week season in The Large at Southwark Playhouse from Friday, August 5 and run until Saturday, September 10. For more details you can visit [southwarkplayhouse.co.uk](http://southwarkplayhouse.co.uk)





**W**ORLD-FAMOUS singer and songwriter Marcella Detroit revealed recently that she would love to work with British superstar Adele, writes *Nicky Sweetland*.

The celebrated performer, who has previously collaborated with some of the music industry's biggest names, including Eric Clapton and Sir Elton John, has just re-released her seventh album, entitled *Gray Matterz*, following the huge success of the first single, *England Calling*.

Marcella said: "I know Adele doesn't work with that many other artists, but I would love to work with her and to write with her."

Perhaps best known to UK audiences as one half of 90s band Shakespears Sister, Detroit is a prodigious songwriter and has enjoyed an enviable career, which has seen her achieve almost unparalleled success and longevity in the fickle world of music. Her latest album sees her return to a more dance music sound, similar to that of the 2001 release, *Dancing Madly Sideways*.

"I just sat down to write after three or four months of not even writing, because I was completely disillusioned by the music business. I just thought 'do you know what? I'm just going to have fun with this. I'm just going to do what I feel' and the first song was like a dance song. I wanted to make it more about songs and less about production and give the background of it as more of a dance arena and that's what happened."

Once the flow of creativity had begun again, Marcella quickly found the rhythm of her writing had returned.

"I just kept writing songs and after about five I decided that it was fairly cohesive and a good vehicle for what I'm trying to say, so I decided to do an album. It was just inspired by things that were going on in my life at the time. I really write autobiographically."

The single *England Calling* was released at the end of last year and was inspired by the wealth of opportunities that have presented themselves to the



**Is that Adele calling, Marcella?**

**Marcella Detroit has enjoyed another creative spell**

lead vocals on the anthem, which can still regularly be heard on radio stations across the world.

She said: "I feel really grateful that something I did is so lauded. I feel grateful, honoured and humbled by it and I still perform it. It's a special song about an interesting and fantastic time in my life."

At 63, the hard working musician shows no signs of slowing down and quite apart from Adele, would love to do some more collaborations. Also on her list are the celebrated record producer Mark Ronson and the multi-award-winning Sam Smith.

You can get more information about Detroit's album *Gray Matterz* on her website [marcella-detroit.com](http://marcella-detroit.com)



**Marcella Detroit discusses her successful seventh album with Nicky Sweetland**

## Clifton to star in Marilyn musical

*STRICTLY* Come Dancing star Joanne Clifton is to appear as movie icon Marilyn Monroe in a new production of *Norma Jeane: The Musical*, which opens at The Lost Theatre later this month.

It promises to show a side of Monroe that to many is still a mystery. *Norma Jeane: The Musical* casts a beady eye on the dark side of fame and fortune. The show opens on May 30, with a press night gala on June 1, which would've been Marilyn's 90th birthday.

Joanne is most famous for her appearances on *Strictly Come Dancing*, where she has partnered Scott Mills, Russell Grant and Harry Judd, with whom she won the Christmas Special in 2015. Her recent work includes *Burn The Floor* (Australia and Japan, 2014) and the UK premiere of Irving Berlin's *Face the Music* (Ye Olde Rose and Crowne, 2015), for which she was nominated for an Off West End Award.

Joanne is joined by Sarah Rose Denton (*Welcome to New York*, Hard Rock Café) as Norma Jeane, Joseph Bader (*Der Rosenkavalier*, Royal Albert Hall) as Marion, Darrie Gardner (*Profumo The Musical*, Waterloo East Theatre) as Ida, and Maggie Robson (*A Catered Affair*, London Theatre Workshop) as Gladys.

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# Talk of the town

**Y**OUNGSTERS from across west London will take to the stage at Regent Park's open-air theatre this week when performances begin of Simon Adamson's adaptation of Micheal Morpurgo's novel, *Running Wild*, writes Nicky Sweetland.

The ensemble for the show will be made up of 57 young performers from the local community – aged between nine and 19, who will be alternating performances between two groups and will help to make the production the theatre's biggest ever.

One of the lucky actors getting the opportunity to be part of this epic production is 14-year-old Nell Dobson. Nell attends St Augustine's Priory in Ealing and has found being part of the cast an enthralling experience. She said: "Whenever I'm on stage, I always know that it is something I love and I treasure every moment."

15-year-old Gina Fassela, from the Southbank Independent School, can't wait to get started and with the beautiful setting within the trees of Regent's Park, feels it's the perfect place for this adventurous production. Gina said: "I love being at Regent's Park, as when you perform outside and under an open sky it adds another level to the buzz you feel when performing live."

The story follows Will, who while on holiday with his mum in Indonesia escapes a tsunami on the back of an elephant. Miles from civilisation, at first there's wonder, discovery and tree-top adventures amongst the orang-utans. But, as thoughts turn to mum left behind on the beach, Tigers prowl, hunger hits and Will must learn how to survive the rainforest.

The role of Will is to be shared between three young performers, Joshua Fernandes, Tyler Osborne and Ava Potter, who previously appeared as Scout in the open air theatre's production of *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Inspirational co-directors Timothy Sheader and Dale Rooks lead the production with puppetry provided by Laura Cubitt, Ben Thompson, Michael Taihi, John Leader, Sarah Mardel and Stuart Angell, with Fred Davis and Romina Hytten making their professional debuts having been part of the Chichester Festival Youth Theatre production in 2015.

*Running Wild* opens on May 19 and runs until June 12. There are also some children's half-term workshops for *Running Wild*. Visit the website [openairtheatre.com/running-wild](http://openairtheatre.com/running-wild)



Joshua Fernandes with Oona the Elephant. Below: director Dale Rooks with some of the YPE  
Pictures: Johan Persson



## Frost back to 40s New York

**S**ADIE Frost will star as Gypsy Rose Lee in a new play called *Britten in Brooklyn* at Wilton's Music Hall.

The actress, whose numerous stage and screen credits include Zoe Lewis' *Touched* at Trafalgar Studios and the 1992 film version of *Bram Stoker's Dracula*, will play the famed burlesque dancer whose memoirs were made into the musical *Gypsy*.

Based on true events, the world premiere of Zoe's passionate and thought-provoking play is set in a dilapidated house in 1940s New York.

The bohemian lifestyle of Benjamin Britten, WH Auden, Carson McCullers and Gypsy Rose Lee in the artistic community at 7, Middagh Street starts



Sadie Frost Picture: Rachell Smith

to unravel as the Second World War becomes a brutal reality.

Exiled in America for his beliefs and a national disgrace, Britten must decide which way his conflicted political ideals lie but the constant parties, doomed affairs and John Dunne, the mysterious stranger, provide an easy distraction.

Starring Frost and directed by Oli Rose, *Britten in Brooklyn* will play for a strictly limited season of 21 performances from August 31 to September 17.

Sadie said: "I am thrilled that the premiere of Zoe's brilliant play is to be staged in Wilton's Music Hall. It was always our first choice of venue and the stunningly restored theatre with its beautiful, faded bohemian elegance will form an integral part of the production."

Further casting and creatives are yet to be announced. If you would like further details you can visit the website [britteninbrooklyn.com](http://britteninbrooklyn.com)

## Elvis takes a Detour back to the Palladium

**I**T'S been "an absolute age" since Elvis Costello played at the London Palladium.

"I don't keep track of these things really," the London-born singer-songwriter adds. "I suppose the last time I was there was when I was in showbiz college, and Bruce and I were presenting *Beat The Clock*."

He is, of course, joking, and showing his age (Bruce Forsyth presented a game segment called *Beat The Clock* on *Sunday Night At The London Palladium* back in the late fifties and early sixties, in case the reference was lost on you). By the time this interview's published, Costello – who is 61 – will have started his stint at the



world-famous venue. When we meet, however, he wonders whether they've got some "ghastly" performance on before his one-man show (of sorts), *Detour*, kicks off.

That wasn't the case though – it was Bryan Ferry.

"Oh well, I take it all back," Costello says when he discovers this. "I'll certainly be lowering the tone after Bryan, Lord Ferry of Tyne and Wear."

The 'of sorts' in his one-man show is on account of the fact Costello's joined at various points by guests, whether on the giant TV screen behind him or in person. To say any more would be to ruin some of the

surprises in store, but it's safe to say Megan and Rebecca Lovell of US roots and country band Larkin Poe make an appearance.

"It's really great to have their support," he says. "It's great to sing three-part harmonies with them, and have their musical backing. It comes as a jolt to the audience. The other great thing about Rebecca and Megan is they're completely unsentimental about my repertoire, because of their youth."

"They have no hankering to hear *Oliver's Army*, because it was in the charts 35 years ago, or any of those old songs. They like things because they think they're good, and they make some left field suggestions

because of that. As a result, we've got a really decent repertoire to play with."

The rest of the evening is taken up by Costello introducing the songs and telling stories linking the whole show together.

"It's anecdotal, it's not 'An Evening With' or anything like that, but there are some slides," he says. "It's not rambling, but it doesn't take a direct route either."

He says no one coming to the show to hear his greatest hits – and there are many – is going to leave disappointed. The key is not so much the well-known songs he's playing, but how he gets there.

ANDY WELCH

# WINE & DINE

The food and  
drink page for  
West London

## MARK HIX'S RECIPE OF THE WEEK



### Spring vegetable salad with falafel and feta

Serves 4-6

You may want to make extra falafel to serve another time as a snack, plus you are likely to start munching on them once they are cooked – so I have allowed a little extra mix here!

Ingredients for the broad bean  
falafels

200g podded weight of fresh  
broad beans (unshelled); 1 large  
clove of garlic, peeled and  
crushed; 1/3tsp ground  
coriander; 1tsp ground cumin;  
1tbsp chopped parsley; 1tbsp  
chopped dill; 4 spring onions,  
finely chopped; 1tbsp chopped  
coriander leaves; a good pinch  
of cayenne pepper; 4-5tbsp dry  
white breadcrumbs; salt;  
vegetable or corn oil for frying

For the dressing

The juice of 1 lemon; 4-5tbs  
olive oil

To serve

A handful or so of coriander,  
mint and parsley leaves, washed  
and dried; 30-40g podded  
weight of peas, cooked  
30-40g podded weight of broad  
beans, cooked (if they are large,  
you can shell them if you wish);  
100-120g good quality feta,  
broken into nuggets



### Spring vegetable salad with falafel and feta

First make the falafels. Put the  
broad beans in a food processor  
with the garlic, ground coriander  
and cumin, and blend to a coarse  
puree.

You will probably have to stop  
the machine a couple of times to  
scrape the sides with a spatula in  
order to get an even-textured mix.  
Remove from the machine and  
transfer into a bowl.

Mix in the parsley, dill, spring  
onions and coriander; season with  
salt and cayenne pepper (they will  
need to be well seasoned) and  
mix in the breadcrumbs. Make  
into patties by shaping small  
handfuls into balls in your hands  
and flattening them slightly. Put  
them on a tray or plate and  
refrigerate for a couple of hours.  
Make the dressing by whisking  
the lemon juice and olive oil and  
seasoning to taste.

Preheat about 8cm of vegetable  
oil to 160-180C in a deep, heavy-  
bottomed pan or electric deep  
fryer. Fry the falafels, about 5 or 6  
at a time depending on the size of  
the fryer, for 5-6 minutes until  
golden, then remove from the fat  
and drain on kitchen paper. To  
serve, arrange the herb leaves,  
falafels, peas, broad beans and  
feta on one large or individual  
serving plates and spoon over the  
dressing.



Simon Wood's been busy since last year's MasterChef win

## PROFILE Simon Wood

He's cooked in world-class  
kitchens, just released a  
cookbook, landed a 'dream  
job' and has plans to open  
up a business... Simon  
Wood's been busy since last  
year's MasterChef win. He  
tells Gemma Dunn why it's  
'all good'

**F**OR lifelong foodie  
Simon Wood, a ca-  
reer in the kitchen  
was always a case of  
'when', rather than 'if'.

"I've always wanted to  
cook, I've always watched  
cookery shows, I've al-  
ways read cookbooks and  
I've always wanted to be  
involved in that. In any  
concept," the 39-year-old  
recalls.

"So if I can get a cook-  
ery TV show, I want one.  
If I can write a cookery  
book, I want to do it. If I  
can win *MasterChef*, I  
want to do it."

And he's a man of his  
word. Since applying for,  
and winning, *MasterChef*  
2015 – "I got into work one  
morning and someone had  
sent me an email that re-  
ally rubbed me up the  
wrong way. I applied and  
never looked back" –  
Wood, dubbed the series'  
brightest ever talent, has  
enjoyed a whirlwind of  
success.

"It's been crazy; it's  
been the quickest year of  
my life. The best but the  
quickest," quips the Man-  
cunian, who counts stints  
at Simon Rimmer's  
Greens Restaurant, Mar-  
cus Wareing at The Berke-

ley, and Theo Randall at  
the InterContinental  
among his exploits.

"It was a massive cul-  
ture shock, though. Some-  
times I still wake up and  
think, 'Oh God, it's really  
real', but I've done so  
much and there's so much  
more to come."

Rapidly ticking off his  
bucket list, the father-of-  
four is seriously busy –  
with his debut cookbook,  
*At Home With Simon  
Wood*.

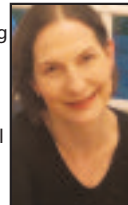
"I want people to look at  
the book and say, 'My  
God, look at that; I  
couldn't do it', but then ac-  
tually have a good read  
and think, 'Yes I can'," he  
enthuses of the book's  
'fine dining made simple'  
ethos. Do you know what?  
There's one dish in there  
that uses one ingredient –  
cauliflower! There are  
some spices but essen-  
tially it's cauliflower and,  
to me, it looks outstand-  
ing. If someone can gener-  
ate that dish with some  
inspiration from my book  
then I'll be made up.

"Don't be scared of  
doing it wrong; just learn  
and practise," he adds.

There's a section dedi-  
cated to the art of plating  
up, too, and chapters cov-  
ering a range of themes,  
including salads, non-  
gluten, pasta, meat, sweet  
things, the sea and vege-  
tarian dishes.

"Hopefully it will in-  
spire people to turn out  
some good quality food."

**Belinda Donovan** is an experienced chef who  
was trained at the prestigious La Varenne cooking  
school in France. She compiled the  
*Hammersmith and Fulham Cook Book* in 2013  
and is a regular writer of cookery columns and  
reviews. An enthusiast for all things Fulham, she  
has also written articles about the area's rich local  
history. She is currently a Conservative councillor  
for the Addison ward and served as Mayor of  
Hammersmith and Fulham for the year 2012-13



## BELINDA DONOVAN

ROSS Spurrier realised a  
childhood dream when he  
started The Bishop's Park  
Farmers' and Fine Food Mar-  
ket.

Incredibly he did this when  
he was just 18 years old.

At 14 he was working on a  
meat stall at a local farmers'  
market, having been volun-  
teered by his grandmother.

He also worked in the  
school holidays on a farm,  
which gave him even more  
knowledge of meat.

Ross decided at 18 that he  
wanted to start the hugely  
popular local Fulham mar-  
ket – it has proved so popular  
that it has gone from being  
fortnightly to once a week

after a survey was under-  
taken of local residents and  
showed an overwhelming de-  
mand.

Ross really enjoys meeting  
the customers and building a  
rapport with them, just as he  
did when he was a child help-  
ing on that market Stall.

The market has ex-  
panded rapidly  
from 14 regular  
stalls to 25 now,  
some of which  
are honoured



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Lot 27 Guide Price £1.7M - 1.9M



## 17 Balham High Road, Balham SW12 9AJ

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Freehold Building arranged to provide GF Retail unit and 6 x Flats above. Retail unit subject to a Lease, 4 flats subject to a Tenancy, 2 flats vacant. Producing £85,400 p.a. (equivalent).

Lot 38 Guide Price £850,000 - 950,000



## 50 Lavender Hill, Battersea SW11 5RH

By order of Receivers

Freehold Building arranged to provide GF Shop with ancillary basement storage and further accommodation above (Shell Condition). Producing £16,000 p.a.

Lot 214 Guide Price £1.8M - £1.9M



## 27 & 27A Oldridge Road & 1 Pickets Street, Balham SW12 8PL

By order of Receivers

Freehold Building arranged to as 3 Flats and 6 letting rooms fully let. Producing £111,000 p.a.

Lot 231 Guide Price £2.5M - £3M



## 1-8 Wigton Place, Kennington SE11 4AN

Freehold site extending to approx 0.042h (0.104a). Planning permission for 6 Houses with basements.

Lot 247 Guide Price £425,000 - £500,000



## 215 Battersea Bridge Road, Battersea SW11 3AP

By order of Receivers

Freehold Building arranged as 3 bedroom accommodation. Subject to an AST. Producing £23,400 p.a. (equivalent).

Lot 225 Guide Price £850,000 - £950,000



## 96-100 Dawes Road & 85-85A Shorolds Road, Fulham SW6 7EJ

By order of Receivers

Freehold Building arranged to as 2 GF Retail Units and 4 Flats. Producing £64,491 p.a. (equivalent).

Lot 244 Guide Price £700,000-£800,000



## 68 Mordaunt Street, Clapham North SW9 9RB

By order of Receivers

Freehold Building with rear garden arranged to provide 2 Flats. Each Flat subject to an AST. Producing £35,400 p.a. (equivalent).

Lot 87 Guide Price £1.9M+



## 2-4 Mountbatten Close, Gipsy Hill SE19 1AP

By Order of a Housing Association

Freehold Building arranged to provide 7 x 9 bed Flats. Extending to approx 0.080h (0.197a). Fully vacant.

Lot 172A Guide Price £450,000+



## 70 Sunny Bank, South Norwood, SE25 4TG

Freehold detached Building arranged as 5 x bedsits (4 x subject to ASTs, One x vacant). Producing £37,479.36 p.a. (equivalent) one bedsit vacant.

Lots 114-118 Guide Price £300,000+ (each)



## 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 Skydec Apartments, 30 Heathfield Road, Wandsworth SW18 3HP

Five Leasehold Flats each subject to an AST. To be offered individually or collectively. Producing £81,012 p.a.

Lots 125 Guide Price £1.75M+  
125A £1.3M+



## 27, 28 & 29 Battersea Square, Battersea SW11 3RA

2 Freehold adjoining Buildings. Potential for redevelopment, subject to consents Majority vacant Producing £12,750 p.a.

Lot 137 Guide Price £450,000 - £500,000



## 36 Graveney Road, Tooting SW17 0EQ

By order of Receivers

Freehold House with rear garden. In Multiple Occupation (HMO). Arranged to provide 8 Letting Rooms subject to a Lease. Producing £42,000 p.a. (equivalent).

Lot 145 Guide Price £500,000 - £550,000



## 63 Himley Road, Tooting SW17 9AG

By order of Receivers

Freehold Building with rear garden. Arranged to provide 6 Letting Rooms occupied on terms unknown.

Lot 148 Guide Price £4M+



## Thornbury House, 12-16 Elmfield Road, Bromley, Kent BR1 1LR

Freehold Mixed Use Parade. Planning submitted for 13 flats. Producing £166,500 p.a. Part Let.

Lot 109 Guide Price £700,000 - £750,000



## Site at 34-52 Sladedale Road, Plumstead SE18 1PY

Freehold site extending to approx 0.086h (0.214a). Planning Permission for 4 buildings comprising 4 x 2 bed Flats and 4 x one bed Flats. Potential for alternative schemes subject to consents.

## Flat 1, 278 Camberwell Road, Camberwell SE5 0DL

Lot 151: Leasehold FF 2 bed Flat subject to Three ASTs. Producing £13,620 p.a. (equivalent).

Guide Price £150,000+

## Lower Ground Floor Flat, 158 Victoria Rise, Clapham SW4 0NW

By order of Receivers

Lot 169: Leasehold LGF 3 bed Flat subject to an AST. Producing £28,800 p.a. (equivalent).

Guide Price £475,000 - £500,000

## Flat C, 377 Lewisham High Street, Lewisham SE13 6NZ

Lot 234: Leasehold 2F 2 bed Flat subject to an AST.

Guide Price £140,000 - £150,000

## 10B Spurling Road, East Dulwich SE22 9AE

By order of The Court

Lot 86: Leasehold 2F/3F 3 bed Maisonette subject to an AST. Producing £20,160 p.a. (equivalent).

Guide Price £280,000+

## Flat B, 114 Hither Green Lane, London SE13 6QA

Lot 68: Leasehold 2F/3F 2 bed Maisonette. Producing £300 p.a.

Guide Price £195,000+

## 84B Kingston Road, London SW19 1LA

Lot 69: Leasehold GF 1 bed Flat with garden (with access from front and rear). Producing £350 p.a.

Guide Price £195,000+

## 137A Shardeloes Road, New Cross SE14 6RT

By order of a Housing Association

Lot 110: Leasehold RGF/LGF 2 bed Maisonette with garden.

Guide Price £360,000+

## Units 1, 2 & 3 Wellington Works, Wimbledon Park, London SW19 8EQ

Lot 75A: Freehold site and Industrial Buildings. Site area extending to approx 0.179h (0.443a). Planning application for demolition of existing buildings and erection of six live/work units. Subject to a Tenancy. Producing £50,500 p.a.

Guide Price £700,000+

## Flat 3, 102 Southwood Road, New Eltham SE9 3QS

Lot 54: Leasehold GF 1 bed Flat.

Guide Price £160,000 - £170,000

## Garage to the rear of, 70 Sunny Bank, London SE25 4TG

Lot 133: Freehold single lock-up Garage.

Guide Price £9,000+

## 122A Plough Road, Battersea SW11 2AL

By order of Receivers

Lot 83: Leasehold Retail Unit arranged to provide 1 bed Residential Unit and rear garden. Producing £12,600 p.a. (equivalent).

Guide Price £225,000 - £250,000

## Flat H, 99 Belvedere Road, Norwood SE19 2HY

By order of a Housing Association

Lot 122: Leasehold 3F 2 bed Flat.

Guide Price £350,000+

## 58 (Lot 61) & 58A (Lot 62) Dornton Road, Balham SW12 9NE

By order of Receivers

Lots 61-62: Two Leasehold Flats each subject to an AST. To be offered individually. Producing £32,400 p.a. from Lot 61 (equivalent) £50,400 p.a. from Lot 62 (equivalent).

Guide Price £4750,000 - £525,000 & TBA

## Garages rear of 4 Christchurch Road, Brixton SW2 3EX

Lot 146: Two Freehold single lock-up Garages with Forecourt. To be offered collectively as one Lot.

Guide Price £30,000+

1. Where a guide price (or range of prices) is given, that guide is the minimum price at which, or range of prices within which, the seller might be prepared to sell on the date at which the guide price, or range of prices, is published.  
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2. Classified Advertisers offering goods or service of a business, commercial or trade nature will, at the discretion of the Publishers, be deemed 'Trade Advertisers', and as such, must include their names in advertisements. A telephone number is an optional addition to these requirements and not an alternative. To comply with the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order 1977, Trade Advertisers must make it clear that they are selling goods in the course of business either by content, format, size or place of the advertisement or by including words such as 'trade', 'dealer', 'agent', 'wholesaler', '(T)' etc. in the advertisement.

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(c) Any delay in forwarding or omission to forward replies to box numbers to the Advertiser.

4. The Publishers will endeavour to publish advertisements on the day / date or day / dates specified by the Advertiser but insertion days / dates cannot be guaranteed.

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7. Whilst every effort is made to minimise errors in advertisements, mistakes do sometimes occur. Advertisers or their agents should therefore check their advertisements and inform us of any errors immediately. Responsibility cannot be accepted for more than one incorrect insertion. Typographical or minor changes, which do not affect the value of the advertisement, do not qualify for republication or allowances.

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13. All accounts must be settled within the terms agreed by the Company and the Customer.

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2. Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in Becklow Road.
3. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would not be require
4. Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
5. The Order will come into operation on the 24th May 2016 and will be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
6. Works are expected to commence on Tuesday, 24th May 2016 and last for 1 day. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

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# Favourites let go

**A**T the end of his first season in charge at Loftus Road Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink has made it clear that he is not one to duck difficult decisions.

Last week the QPR manager risked his popularity among supporters by releasing two of the most popular players from his first team squad for next season.

Veteran defender Clint Hill and creative midfielder Ale Faurlin were both shown the door in W12 by the nonsense Dutchman, whom many fans reckon may live to regret it.

"There is no disguising we have had some very difficult decisions to make," said Hasselbaink.

"What was absolutely vital, though, when I was speaking to all of the players, was that I was 100 per-cent honest with them. They needed to know where they stand, and my views.

"Clint and Ale are QPR stalwarts who have given outstanding effort and commitment to the club but now is the time to try to make new heroes for the supporters."

No-one can question Hill's commitment, determination or popularity. A born leader, he was twice voted supporters' player of the year during R's time in the Premier League since his arrival from Crystal Palace in the summer of 2010.

Fans will recall how he skippered Rangers to promotion glory in 2013-14 and his selfless acts of substituting

himself in the play-off semi-final and final for the benefit of the team, which only enhanced his status among Hoops' faithful.

## Youthful

But the fact is the centre-back will turn 38 in October and Hasselbaink is right to replace him with a much more youthful and mobile successor.

Hill, who suffered a cartilage injury last November, made only 13 appearances in the 2015-16 Championship campaign. In the previous season which resulted in relegation, he started only half (19) of R's Premier League matches.

On Hill's departure after 185 appearances (five goals) in all competitions for QPR,



**JIMMY** Floyd Hasselbaink made tough calls

Hasselbaink said: "If Clint was a few years younger and could play 46 games in the Championship, it would have been a no-brainer to keep him.

"The reality is we do not know how many games he would be able to play next season. For me, the next centre-half I bring to the club has to be able to play 46 games.

"I am not in a position to sign a player who we know is not going to be able to play Saturday, Tuesday, Saturday. It is a pity because Clint is a competitor and I know he is QPR through and through.

"We wish him every success and I am absolutely sure the fans will see him back at this club one day as a coach."

Faurlin, another popular long-serving figure who joined in 2009, leaves after making 163 appearances for the club. He will be 30 by the time next season starts. His Loftus



Road career has been punctuated by knee injuries and despite the elegant Argentine's classy touches, Hasselbaink appears to want younger legs in midfield.

JFH added: "I see Ale as a squad player for next year but he wants to play game after game after game, which I understand. Unfortunately, I am not able to give him that assurance. From there, we have made our decision to go our separate ways.

"There are no grudges between us. We have worked really well together and I respect him. It is a football decision, and a difficult one.

"He has been great to deal with. I have had a very good working relationship with him. He was on board with what we were trying to do this season. Now what we are looking to do is move to the next step.

"For him, the next step is to continue his football journey elsewhere. We wish him the very best for the future and thank him enormously for his efforts.

"I really wish him a good journey. I cannot say anything bad about him as a guy or as a player. The reality is we have tough decisions to

make but it is important we are honest with everyone when we make them."

## ■ QPR have released 12 players from their Elite Development Squad this summer.

Frankie Sutherland, who spent the second half of the 2015-16 season on loan at Crawley Town, has been at the club since the age of 10 but departs at the end of his latest deal.

Fellow EDS players Michael Anastasiou, George Butler, Nathan Corkery, James Haran, Martin Herdman, Andreas Komodikis, Leon Lobjoit, Aaron Mitchell, Joseph N'Guessan, Ben Pattie and Harly Wise will also leave Loftus Road.

In addition, Jake Mulraney has turned down the club's offer of re-engagement and will leave in the summer.

Tom Rosenthal and Conor Hudnott are similarly out of contract but have been offered deals to extend their stay in W12.

Meanwhile, Brandon Adams, Jeremy Arthur, Ruudi Clarke, Gianni Crichlow, Dan Darbyshire and Jack Williams – six members of Paul Furlong's Under-18 side – have been offered third year scholarships.



■ **NICK** Gubbins set Middlesex on their way Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South

# Gubbins sets pace

## ● COUNTY CRICKET ROUND-UP

### ■ IN the local derby Championship clash which began at the Kia Oval on Sunday, Nick Gubbins top-scored for Middlesex before a middle-order collapse pegged them back against Surrey.

Openers Gubbins and Sam Robson, dropped on nine by Kumar Sangakkara, made 126 together before Robson (53) fell after his fourth 50-plus score this summer.

Gubbins (91) and Dawid Malan (58) set the visitors up before the latter was caught behind off James Burke (2-56), the first of five wickets for 51 runs.

By lunch on Monday Middlesex were all out for 395, with Adam Voges weighing in with a useful 47 on his return from a head injury.

But Surrey's hopes of recording their first win of the season at the fifth attempt suffered a setback when Ravi Rampaul, their leading wicket-taker this summer, had to retire injured midway through an over.

### ■ SURREY went into the derby game following a heavy defeat to Yorkshire by an innings and 20 runs.

The defending champions romped to an unassailable 557-6 before declaring at Headingley and bowling out their visitors twice.

Steve Davies and Kumar Sangakkara showed most resistance. Davies

Middlesex went into the game without top order batsman Nick Compton and seamer Steven Finn, who were both named in the 12-man England squad to face Sri Lanka in the first Test starting at Headingley this Thursday.

## Fourth draw

Earlier last week, Middlesex had to be content with their fourth draw in succession after rain ravaged their CC1 match against Nottinghamshire at Lord's, where there was no play possible on the third and fourth days.

Chasing Notts' first innings total of 354 all out, the hosts were brilliantly led by Robson, who was 141 not out, while John Simpson had progressed to an unbeaten 66 when play was abandoned with Middlesex having reached 203-3.

Middlesex will be in CC1 action again from this Sunday, when they face Somerset at Lord's.

followed his 117 in the first innings with 52 second time out, while the Sri Lankan run machine contributed 71 and 63.

Surrey open their T20 campaign this Friday night with a local derby against Essex under the lights at Chelmsford, before resuming in their four-day CC1 schedule in Lancashire from Sunday.

## ■ CHELSEA from back page

With that, Terry was then grabbed by the players and thrown into the air.

If, indeed, it was his last contribution as a Blues player after 703 appearances spanning almost 18 years, the speech will cut into the hearts of the Chelsea board, who had hoped that they would be able to claim the moral high ground.

Whatever the decision Terry makes – he will meet owner Roman Abramovich later this week to finally put the saga to bed – he will forever remain captain, leader and legend in the hearts of the fans.

# Aluko warns rivals

## ■ AT half-time on Sunday, Chelsea's youth and cerebral palsy teams took to the pitch to the acclaim of supporters. Both groups had a successful trophy-winning season.

Chelsea Ladies would have been out there receiving congratulations, too, had they not fluffed a great chance to retain the women's FA Cup.

In truth, the players simply failed to get going in Saturday's final, losing 1-0 to Arsenal in front of a record 32,912 at Wembley.

An 18th minute strike from Danielle Carter was the difference between the two rivals.

It was a defeat that shook the players to the core. Star winger Eniola Aluko was fuming at the defeat, angry at their performance but she also sent out a signal to the rest of the Women's Super League that, despite the cup upset, they are still the team to beat this season.

On Thursday, they face unbeaten leaders Manchester City in what is already viewed as a title decider. Chelsea are second, three points behind City, but the west Londoners are also undefeated and have played a game less.

There are bad feelings between the two sets of players that Aluko, 29, says smacks of arrogance from the City camp.

## Tone of the game

Of the Wembley final, the forward said: "I just don't think enough of us turned up, to be honest. I think we started slowly, Arsenal had a few chances in the first two minutes, that set the tone of the game and we just couldn't get back into it.

"We did not take our chances. We are normally far more deadly in front of goal."

Chelsea had a great chance to equalise soon after going behind but Fran Kirby failed to hit the net.

"Fran usually takes those chances," she said. "You can't score every one and Fran did, after all, score the goals that got us into the final. It's tough but it

just wasn't our day.

"I think it's hard when you are just beaten by a better team. Ironically, this is the first time Arsenal have beaten us in about two-and-a-half years.

"It's frustrating, as every time we have played Arsenal in that period, we have dominated and been excellent. So maybe it was the occasion that overawed us. I'd put my money on it. If we played them at their place or ours, we would have won – it just wasn't good enough at Wembley."

Aluko was bullish about Chelsea's prospects of retaining their league title and having a serious go at winning in Europe.

"What I will say is that this team has reacted to failure (in the past) very well. In 2014, we failed, we did not win any trophies, then the next year we did the double. So I would say to the rest of the league and the rest of Europe, 'watch out, this team doesn't lie down when we fail, we come back'.

"It's the Chelsea way. Failure can be the best thing to happen. Complacency is a killer, so losing and Arsenal walking up those those steps . . . I just couldn't watch, it was awful. For me and for the rest of the team, that image has to be imprinted on our minds."

The tricky winger then rounded on league rivals Manchester City.

"On Thursday, against Man City, we are going to

come out all guns blazing and hopefully win the game."

She is also wound up by vibes coming from City that they will win and roll them over – something Aluko suggests is pure unfounded arrogance.

"I really don't know where that comes from," she said. "They have absolutely no reason to be arrogant. They have won a Continental Cup in two years. Now, I have the upmost respect for Man City. I think what they have done for the women's game is fantastic, but I think their arrogance stinks and we have got to make sure we firmly put them in their place. But we have got to do it. We can't talk about it, we have got to do it."

## Hallmark of winning sides

It's that kind of strong-willed determination, a refusal to accept second best, that is the hallmark of Chelsea winning sides.

The youth team have shown it, the women's team have it in bucketfuls. But the men's senior side – which has just completed its worst season since 1996 – seems to be distinctly lacking it, with the singular exception of John Terry.

Will he be at Stamford Bridge next season to instil that winning formula once more? We will know later this week for certain.

## London Weekly News

# SPORT

Tuesday, May 17th, 2016

● SPORTS DESK: 07711 169 427

# Terry torn on future

**J**OHN Terry is torn between the love of the Chelsea fans, the thought that he could still perform at the highest level for Blues next season and accepting a mind-boggling offer of a two-year deal with a top Chinese club.

An emotional Terry simply does not know whether to say yes to or reject an eleventh hour offer from Chelsea to stay in SW6 for another season.

The sensational developments started on Friday, when Terry and his agent Paul Nicholls met with the club's top brass, chairman Bruce Buck and director Marina Granovskaia.

It was expected that the final nail in his Chelsea career would be hammered in.

Terry had revealed in January that the club were not going to offer him a new deal.

That revelation had the double-pronged effect of alerting possible suitors for his talent and piling on pressure from fans who want Chelsea to keep him.

Until last week, that position had not changed.

● By LWN reporter **Paul Lagan**  
sport@londonweeklynews.co.uk

But as Sunday's final game of the season against Premier League champions Leicester City loomed, and with a possible fans' revolt against the hierarchy and Roman Abramovich in particular looking increasingly likely, Chelsea took the decision to volley the issue back into Terry's court.

### Slash his salary

The club's extraordinary U-turn meant that they would offer Terry a one-year deal that would slash his current salary of £200k a week down to a relatively paltry £55k but, more significantly, reduce his playing time – effectively ending his career.

The counter offer from China is believed to be in the region of £300k a week, with significant add-ons for playing time and a fair few free first-class return tickets back to the UK.

Terry, 35, has already travelled to China to

familiarise himself with the climate and culture and, if he took the exceptional deal, he would take his family there too.

LWN Sport understands that while Terry believes the cash offer from Chelsea is derisory, he is

firmly of the view that he could prove to new manager Antonio Conte that he is still the best centre-back at the club, despite the expected new partnership of Kurt Zouma and Gary Cahill.

Terry can justifiably argue that this season's most effective centre-back pairing was the one he shared with Zouma, which at one point saw Cahill cut adrift and concerned that his Chelsea career was in doubt. Cahill only seriously returned to the fold following Zouma's season-ending injury.

Terry spent Sunday at Stamford Bridge fully visible. He popped into the press room, sat in the dug-out and in the 26th minute (the same number as his shirt) stood up to applaud a cheering stadium who had called out his name and demanded that he stay.

The match against Leicester City was a sideshow, the 1-1 draw – Cesc Fabregas' 67th minute penalty cancelled out by Danny Drinkwater's equaliser eight



■ HAPPIER times for John Terry, celebrating with Diego Costa Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South



## This week at STAMFORD BRIDGE

minutes from time – a symbol of interim manager Guus Hiddink's tenure. Hiddink won just one league match in five months since replacing Jose Mourinho in January. No, this occasion was all about Terry.

As the players took a somewhat embarrassing lap of appreciation at the end of a trophy-less season that saw the deposed champions finish 10th, Terry – who was suspended for the match – took the microphone and gave a much anticipated speech that is worth recapping in full.

He said: "First and foremost from me I'd like to wish Claudio Ranieri, the Leicester team and the Leicester fans congratulations from me. I'm delighted Leicester have won it and I'm just glad Tottenham haven't."

"For us Chelsea fans, this season's been a difficult one. It's not been us, we've not been at our best and we are where we deserve to be in the league. From the supporters' point of view, you've stuck with us through thick and thin."

"We've had some great times in recent years and you've been a big part of that."

"Not only myself, but all the players thank you for the support this year, because at times we've all accepted we've not been good enough."

"But I can assure you, we'll be back next year and we'll be fighting for this title."

"On a personal note, I'd like to thank everyone as well. In early season it's been tough for me, very emotional and the support over recent weeks... (welling up, he paused)."

Most of the 41,494 crowd chanted Terry's name before he continued: "Chelsea is my life, just like it is yours. You've been a big part of the best moments in my life in this stadium. From myself and all the players I'd like to say a big thank you."

"Just before I sign off I'd like to say a huge thank you to Guus Hiddink. A great man for what he's done for this football club before and he's come back and done it again. He's picked us up."

"He's just a real honest and great man. Again, from the players we thank him, Steve Holland, Eddie (Newton), all the staff, because they're doing fantastic."

(Crowd sing: "John Terry, we want you stay".)

"We all want the same thing. I've said for a very long time I want to be here for the rest of my career. I want to finish my career here. We'll have a few days and we'll be speaking to the club. Listen, I want to stay. The club knows that, the fans know that."

"I just want to say well done to the young boys as well. Tammy (Abraham) and Fikayo (Tomori), you've been fantastic, Ruben (Loftus-Cheek) as well. Let's hope we can keep producing these young boys and get them on the pitch in the first team. Thank you again. You've been unbelievable for me personally and for the team as well. On behalf of the whole squad, thank you very much."

■ Continued on page 27



## Focus on Craven Cottage

By TONY McDONALD

# Parker extends contract

**F**ORMER Fulham defender Tony Gale has defended the club's decision last week to extend captain Scott Parker's contract until the summer of 2017.

Parker, one of the top earners at Craven Cottage, will be 36 next October and was widely expected to leave SW6 after three seasons with Whites.

But writing for www.fulhamfc.com, Gale said: "I was pleased to see that Scott Parker signed a one-year extension. I like Scotty, he's a nice lad. It's important to have good pros in and around the club, that's what it's all about."

"So as good as he is, I don't think Scott's been signed to another year just for his play. He's also been signed to have around the place, which is very wise because you need good pros who have been there, seen it, done it, and you need pros who reacted in the way that he did towards the end of the season. I don't think it was any coincidence that he was playing in the side when we had that good run of results that pretty much made us safe."

"You can tell he's got the respect of the players in the changing room and you can't underestimate the influence that good pros

have on young kids coming through. Scotty's a top pro, there's no doubt about it, so it's a good signing."

The Lambeth-born former Charlton, Chelsea, Newcastle United, West Ham and Spurs midfielder missed the early part of last season after undergoing ankle surgery in the summer.

And by the time he did return to a struggling side in mid-winter, Kit Symons had been sacked and Slaviša Jokanović was about to be appointed.

### Manage

"When I first came back into the team we had to manage the amount of minutes I played," recalled Parker, capped 18 times by England at senior level. "After 70 minutes I'd have to come off and very rarely did I play two games in a week."

"But as the season went on my ankle started to feel pretty good and I was playing Saturday-Tuesday-Saturday, which was brilliant for me and, to be fair, quite a shock."

"When you've had a big injury and been out for a while there's always doubt in your head,

especially at my age. There was a big question mark against me, so to come back and help the team was very pleasing."

Parker, who joined Fulham from Tottenham in August 2013, admits: "It's been a pretty disappointing season for all of us and, apart from the London derby wins against QPR, there haven't been many highlights."

"It's been two years in this league after coming out of the Premier League and we've fallen short by some way. We have to learn from our mistakes and learn what the Championship is all about."

In a letter to the fans after putting pen to paper, Parker stated: "I'm delighted to have signed an extension with the club. We are all confident that we can make next season a better one, so I do hope you'll join me and the boys again at Craven Cottage for 2016-17."

Fulham have also confirmed that Jesse Joronen's contract has been extended until June 2017. Joronen, who has made four first team appearances for Whites, joined League Two Stevenage on loan last season before a thigh injury in November brought the Finland international's time there to a premature end.

## Tough calls for Rangers boss – page 27

# Shepherd's Bush

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# Free places at top private school

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**"It's wonderful that we have more than 100 children here on a bursary at Latymer - the vast majority of those being on a free place."**

Goodhew's own education has influenced his ambitions for the School. His journey may have taken him from local comprehensive school to reading Classics in the ivory towers of Oxford University, but he hasn't forgotten his roots. He feels passionately that the financial background of a bright child should not form a barrier against entry to Latymer.

"One aspect that initially attracted me to Latymer was its bursary programme, which has benefited thousands of children during its long history – including the young Alan Rickman and Hugh Grant. If a child does well in our entrance exam and interview, but can't pay for either all or part - of the fees, we offer them a bursary. These bursaries range from



**FEE ASSISTANCE:** David Goodhew opens the doors at Latymer Upper

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And it is this that sets Latymer apart from the crowd. As an academically selective, but socially inclusive school, Goodhew believes in the importance of a 'rounded' education. He explains;

"Latymer pupils have their feet firmly on the ground and are in touch with the real world, which is partly due to our diverse mix of students. A child who is educated alongside those from different cultural and social backgrounds undoubtedly benefits from an awareness of other views and perspectives on life that can only enrich their lives - and those around them.

"It's wonderful that we have more than 100 children here on a bursary at Latymer - the vast majority of those being on a free place. But we want to do more. Our next goal is to double the bursary figures by our 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary, in 2024. It's an ambitious challenge, but one we believe will benefit all our pupils – both bursary and non-bursary recipients."



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